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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ONTARIO COUNCIL OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

AT THE

HOLIDAY INN, TORONTO

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 1986
9 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



It's good to be here today. I've been looking forward to this opportunity to introduce myself to the entire OCCF membership. I have already met with some of you during the last few months, and found those meetings productive and informative.

Those of you who haven't met me, are no doubt asking yourselves what another new Minister of Natural Resources will mean to you as commercial fishermen. Perhaps I can help answer that by telling you what it means to me.

The most difficult task of a new Minister is getting to know every aspect of the ministry. In this case, however, I am far from unfamiliar with your industry. I grew up in Niagara Falls, and have known commercial fishermen on Lake Erie and Lake Ontario all my life.

As well, my special assistant, David MacDonald, is from a commercial fishing family in Port Dover. Between them, David's father and grandfather spent about 50 years fishing Lake Erie. David is more than willing to fill me in on aspects of the industry that only someone who has grown up in it can appreciate.

Much of my knowledge of commercial fishing, however, comes from personal experience. Like you, I have a deeply rooted love of the lakes. As a boy, I used to go fishing with Fred Clay, a friend of my father's who lived near Port Maitland. I am sure many of you knew Fred. He went after blue pickerel in those days, a commercial species now gone from Lake Erie.

Like you, I remember the empty nets of the 1940s and '50s, when the combination of pollution, increasingly competitive fishing, the sea lamprey and the smelt, took a heavy toll on the numbers of fish. In some lakes, entire species -- like the blue pickerel -- were wiped out.

But despite the years of change and upheaval, the fact remains that Ontario still has a viable commercial fishing industry.

That's because you, and your families, hung on in tough times. And it's also because a lot of people -- scientists, biologists, and fisheries managers -- worked hard to turn those lakes around, and to bring back the fish.

There's a lot to look back on. Today, however, I want to talk about the realities that shape your industry right now, in 1986. The realities that you as fishermen live with every day, and the realities that affect my ministry's role as provincial fisheries manager. And then I want to talk about where we want the commercial fishery to go, and how we're going to get there.

The first reality my ministry must deal with, is the fact that Ontario's fisheries are a commonly owned resource. No one person, or group of persons, can claim exclusive ownership of any part of the fisheries.

That is where my role as Minister comes in. I am essentially an allocator, with the responsibility of ensuring fairness in how the resource is shared. I take that responsibility seriously.

The second reality is the fact that the fishery is a finite and fragile resource. That means there is a lot more to consider when dividing up the resource than just numbers of fish. We have to look at species balance, impact on stocking programs, habitat, and a host of other environmental and economic considerations.

These are the realities that shape our fisheries management programs. Your industry has another reality to consider -- the marketplace. As commodity suppliers, you have to meet market demand, and tailor your operations according to market fluctuations.

Now, taking all of these realities into consideration, I'd like to give you my vision for a commercial fishing industry in Ontario.

There is no doubt in my mind that the future for the commercial fishing industry in Ontario looks good. The markets are there if you provide quality goods and if you can adapt to changing domestic and world market conditions.

With that goal in mind, there are a number of initiatives I would like to see your industry take.

First of all, I believe you need a strong, representative voice for the entire industry. That is the only way to align yourselves with other major user groups in speaking to government about fisheries management issues.

I don't think I can stress enough, the importance of unity within your industry. As Minister, I am not able to respond as effectively -- or as quickly -- to four or five, or a dozen voices, as I am to one.

I also urge you to establish lake representatives of your own, to handle issues on a lake by lake basis. Effective lake associations will serve to strengthen the role fishermen play in decisions which affect their own well-being.

This, of course, implies involvement in the difficult, as well as the more popular, decisions. It means an assumption of trust. It means a willingness to work together in both regulations enforcement and fisheries assessment.

Looking ahead, I see an industry that may be smaller in terms of numbers of licence holders. That is to be expected as some fishermen expand their operations by acquiring the quotas of those retiring. I expect this leaner industry to be vigorous and more stable economically.

I also see an industry with greater autonomy. Autonomy goes hand in hand with taking responsibility for the resource you share. This sense of responsibility is demonstrated in your acceptance of self-policing and a role in fisheries assessment.

On the subject of royalties, I remain committed to the idea, but on your advice I have decided to postpone the implementation of a revised fee schedule until next year.

As requested by the executive of your organization, the fees will be in the form of a royalty payable at the end -- not the beginning -- of the fishing season.

That's generally what's in store, but I would like to discuss the whole matter further with you -- in fact, as soon as we can in this new year so the program can get under way in 1987.

A vision for the commercial fishing industry would not be complete without a parallel vision for the Ministry of Natural Resources. I have many ideas on how I would like MNR to adapt to the changing needs of commercial fishing.

First of all, I would like to see the ministry moving in the direction of being more of a facilitator of regulations, and less of a policeman. This would, as I have already mentioned, require more co-operation and concession to self-policing on your part.

As it is, MNR is compelled to devote large-scale resources to law enforcement. I would like to see that changed.

The ministry must also be both a communicator and a listener. Doug Townsend is expanding his role in this capacity right now. By the way, John Waugh and several other commercial fishermen tell us they are pleased with what Doug has been doing.

I should tell you we were lucky to get Doug for this job. We caught him just as he quit the ministry early to do something he has always planned to do -- work his family's farm near Belleville.

He wanted to get out of government before he got locked into a pension -- even though he has many years of experience and was one of the ministry's most knowledgeable, capable officers. He enjoyed his work, but his idea of a real job has always involved running your own show, accepting the risks, being outdoors, and not being tied down by a lot of paperwork.

He reserves his highest respect for individuals who shoot from the hip and have the entrepreneurial spirit. That's why we hired him on a contract -- and that's why he accepted, although it meant delaying his return to farming.

Doug must have had second thoughts at first though. I hear he went chub fishing with Russell Raney off Tobermory in the fall and for the first time in his life was seasick. This is a man who has been out in all kinds of choppy water on both Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.

I hope it was something he ate -- not something Russell told him about government regulations.

Doug is your direct connection to the ministry and our direct connection to you.

I want to see that two-way connection made stronger, and I want to see it simplified. We need a process built into the structure of the ministry that will reduce barriers to communication.

To that end, Doug will be developing a new field communications system. This will include a booklet that will describe clearly and simply how the system works. The booklet will explain the best procedures for you to follow when dealing with the ministry.

Doug will also produce a newsletter twice a year. This will keep individual commercial operators up to date on regulations, quota adjustments and new developments within the ministry. We also intend to publish the commercial fishing regulations in a readable form for the convenience of commercial operators.

We can also improve communications through the annual MNR/commercial fishermen lake meetings. The meetings offer one of the few opportunities for ministry staff and commercial fishermen to talk about the fishery. Occasionally these lake meetings don't take place. In other instances, commercial operators may hear about the meetings after they've taken place. Less vocal fishermen may attend but never get the opportunity to make their points.

I am proposing that at least one lake meeting must take place each year. Further, the meetings will be more structured to include an agenda. Minutes will also be taken and distributed to all the commercial operators on the lake -- whether they were present or not.

Let's not limit our avenues of communication. As I said, I welcome the chance to hear from you personally. Your suggestion about being given an opportunity to manage the self-policing function on western Lake Erie was great. Let's discuss your other ideas and even complaints you might have -- but let's do it face-to-face. I like newspapers, but they're not a heck of a great way for two parties to communicate.

The success of improved communication, however, depends very much on what I mentioned earlier in my vision of your industry. To make a new communications system work we need a representative industry voice from each lake. We cannot develop good partnership in management without it.

Another change I would like to see, is less need for the ministry to involve itself in the day-to-day business of a commercial fisherman. That will come about as the industry increases its autonomy by assuming greater responsibility for the resource.

Another role often played by my ministry -- and another one I would like to see less of -- is that of arbitrator among the various user groups. Come to us with ideas and suggestions for improvement, rather than complaints. That way, we can be in the position to respond to collective user concerns and advice.

Above all, what I want to see at the ministry is balanced decision-making that recognizes the needs of all those affected. I want all the cards on the table, with all the players present. That means no closed door negotiating with any one interest group, at the expense of another.

I have described my vision of the commercial fishing industry in Ontario, and the role of the Ministry of Natural Resources in achieving that vision.

The next question is, how do we get there? I think we've already made the first step -- and it's a big one -- with the modernization program, and the quota system.

We're also working to improve the quality of the fishery. At your request, my ministry has stepped up its management programs in fisheries assessment and enforcement.

While we are on the subject of assessments, let me announce something I think you'll all be interested in.

I recognize that commercial fishermen have serious doubts about the ministry's assessment capabilities. Well, I intend to deal with that immediately.

I have directed that funds be set aside for a review of MNR's assessment capabilities on a lake-by-lake basis beginning this year. We will start with Lake Erie.

Your organization will have a major role to play in this review. Among other things, staff from MNR's fisheries branch will be looking to you for help in the selection of candidates to conduct the assessment.

I think this review is extremely important. If we can agree on the numbers of fish we have -- and on how we reach those numbers -- we will have jumped a major hurdle. We will be able to move forward and solve a range of other problems -- together.

Another thing we both have to work on is reducing the conflict between sport and commercial fishing interests. I'm talking about the kinds of things the commercial fishermen working off Southampton near Owen Sound accomplished early last fall at a meeting with two local angling clubs and the Sauble Beach Chamber of Commerce.

As a result of that meeting, relations between commercial fishermen and local sport fishing groups have improved tremendously.

On the subject of incidental catches, the ministry will continue to support the move from gill nets to livetrap gear in areas where there is a large sport fishing industry and trap netting is feasible.

We support that, but at the same time I am depending on the gill netting sector of the industry itself to play a major role in helping overcome this problem. Without your contribution to a resolution, the problem of angler conflict will grow.

To further reduce the gap among users of fishing resources, we are proposing to establish a Fisheries Advisory Council to advise us on matters of strategic importance.

The creation of this council is part of the program establishing the resident angling licence. Your industry will be well-represented on this council. This will provide you with a forum to make other user groups aware of what the commercial fishing industry means to its participants. Your representative will serve to safeguard the interests of your industry.

But, no matter what programs are put in place, they won't work unless all of us are working together. After all, my motives, and those of my ministry staff, are exactly the same as yours. We both want a thriving commercial fishing industry for Ontario.

And, the sooner we realize we're on the same side, the sooner we'll achieve what we both want.

Commercial fishing already makes a valued contribution to the provincial economy. But it could -- and should -- be making an even larger contribution. I am confident that as the industry stabilizes, it will be able to take more advantage of domestic and export marketing opportunities. I believe it will play an increasingly important role in Ontario's economy.

I want to see that happen. I think it can through building unity within your industry, establishing lake representatives, lake associations, by building trust between us and by giving you greater autonomy with less day-to-day interference.

We have a good commercial fisheries liaison officer now who will give you strong representation. We have clearly written procedures to help you deal with the ministry, a new communications system and clearer fisheries regulations.

You will also have a powerful voice on the new Fisheries Advisory Council and, this year -- together -- we will begin an objective review of my ministry's assessment capabilities.

You also have my sympathetic ear.

My vision of Ontario -- what it is and what it could be -- includes a commercial fishing industry that is modern, healthy and thriving.

I personally want that very much. And by working together, we are going to make it happen.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

**THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

TO THE

CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF ONTARIO

HYDRO PLACE, TORONTO

JANUARY 30, 1986
10:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

First of all, I'd like to say it is a pleasure to be here this morning. As Minister of both Natural Resources and Energy, I deal with an incredible variety of issues. It is not often that I have the opportunity to address an audience which has an interest in so many of those issues.

In fact, the sheer number of organizations represented here today points out very clearly how important -- and wide-reaching -- resource management is.

Since becoming Minister, I have spoken to, or met with representatives of, many of your organizations. Those of you who have already met me, know where I stand on resource issues, and know I share many of your concerns.

In preparing for today's meeting, I was struck by the similarity between the Conservation Council of Ontario, and the Ministry of Natural Resources. Forestry, wildlife, outdoor recreation, aggregates, water and land management -- all of these areas of concern and responsibility are contained within our two organizations.

Within the CCO, you also have members such as the Ontario Medical Association, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and the Council of Outdoor Educators.

This of course, parallels my own ministry's working relationship with other ministries such as Environment, Health, Education, Agriculture and Food, and Municipal Affairs, to name a few. We work together out of necessity, and we work together well.



As a new Minister, I know the importance of good working partners. I never hesitate to call on the expertise of others. And my receptiveness to advice, of course, extends beyond my government colleagues. I am just as willing, and as eager, to listen to what the public has to say.

That is why I was pleased to discover how much public involvement goes into decision making at the Ministry of Natural Resources. As you may know, we have just completed a round of open houses regarding the issue of aerial spraying against budworm and gypsy moth.

Next month, public meetings will begin across the province to find out just what people think about the proposed resident angling licence. Public response to issues such as these very definitely affects our ministry policy decisions.

In asking the public to become involved, we are in effect issuing a challenge -- a challenge to share in the responsibility for managing the resources we commonly own and benefit from. The CCO accepted another challenge one year ago -- to evaluate the conservation accomplishments of the Government of Ontario.

As you found out, that was one big assignment. My Deputy Minister, Mary Mogford, told you at the time that, in issuing the challenge, the government considered its agreement with you to be a two-fold commitment. First, we made a financial commitment to enable you to do the job well.

Second, we made a commitment to listen carefully to, and consider, your evaluation. In return we asked that the evaluation represent a consensus, that it be relevant, and that any recommendations that emerge be practical, constructive and positive.

As I said, it was an enormous task. I look forward to reading your report upon its completion.

Today, I would like to outline where I stand on some of the issues you likely tackled. I also want to address some areas I know are of concern to us both.

I think a good beginning point would be the Royal Commission on the Northern Environment.

The Royal Commission told us, among other things, that there is a desire on the part of many groups to change certain government programs in the north.

While we may not agree with all the recommendations put forward by the Commission, we are sympathetic to the concerns and frustrations, and hopes, behind them. In many areas, the Commission simply put a spotlight on things we were already working on.

For instance, the Commission told us that conditions for native people must be improved. Before Christmas, we announced an intention to negotiate with native people on access to resources adjacent to reserves.

As well, the White Dog-Grassy Narrows damage claim against Great Lakes Paper Products has been settled after about a decade of negotiation.

As you know, the Commission's report was especially critical of the forest industry and the provincial forestry planning process. I am glad to say that many of those criticisms are no longer valid, and that solutions were actually in the works long before the report was released.

In fact, developing our forest management programs is one of my highest priorities right now.

Few other natural resources in the province contribute as much to our welfare and comfort as our forests. They have been a major factor in Ontario's development as a province, providing the basis for opening up the north and for the growth of a diverse secondary manufacturing industry throughout the province.

Our forests also provide things we can't begin to quantify in dollar terms -- habitat for wildlife, wilderness recreation, a place for people to find peace and solitude, as well as protection from erosion, floods and drought.

I share with you a deep belief that we must use our forests wisely, we must re-invest in them generously, and we must cultivate and nurture them as an inheritance for our children, and for our children's children.

The economic contribution of forests to the province speaks for itself. Forests provide jobs for about 160,000 Ontarians -- directly and indirectly. They allow entire communities to exist and grow. They allow us to produce products for sale to the world -- everything from newsprint to the byproducts that go into a range of manufactured goods.

Last year alone, Ontario's forests provided more than \$3-billion in value added to the provincial economy, and more than \$60-million in revenue the government can use for the social and economic benefit of Ontarians.

The people of Ontario depend upon their forests to provide economic benefits. In northwestern Ontario, eight out of every 10 jobs depends on the forest industry. We have to accept that reality.

We also have to face the fact that our forests are now at a turning point. The old natural forest is being depleted not just by harvesting, but by fire, insects and disease. Of the remainder, some stands are too far away or too poor in quality or quantity of desired species to be utilized.

The forest industry will be dependent for the next 40 to 50 years on forests already in existence. But in the long term, we will have to depend on a new forest, one that government and industry have already begun to put in place.

The kind of decisions we make now while we establish the new forest are critical. What we decide now will be what we get four or five decades down the road.

Moving from the old to the new forest will be a tremendous challenge. Our success will depend on wise forest management.

I would define wise timber management as growing the best trees possible, on the best sites available, while having due regard and respect for environmental considerations and other uses of the forest. And the end result must benefit as many Ontario citizens as possible.

Like many of you here today, I can see there is plenty of room for improving timber management in Ontario. Don't forget that in terms of such things as growing techniques and silviculture, quality of crop seed and other factors, timber management is at a stage of development that is -- in terms of practice in northern Ontario -- barely 25 years old.

Twenty-five years. That is not a long time. We have a long, long way to go before we exhaust the potential for improvement in timber management.

That's not to say we aren't accomplishing good things right now. We have undergone a radical change over the last few years in attitudes toward timber management activities. By establishing the system of Forest Management Agreements, we have acknowledged it is not enough for government to act alone in assuming responsibility for integrating harvesting and regeneration.

We have learned to treat timber management activities as a business involving two equal partners -- the forest industry, and the people of Ontario as represented by the province. Planning and managing that business is a joint responsibility of both. The objective is to survive and prosper.

By way of reassuring you, let me state this another way. Placing forest production on a sound investment basis does not mean abandoning our emphasis on forests as providers of recreation, wildlife habitat, and protection from erosion and drought.

That's what I call wise forest management -- and my ministry is committed to wise forest management.

The government is also committed to involving the people of Ontario in decisions about managing the forests. We believe there is not going to be progress unless there is a reasonable agreement among reasonable people about what should be done.

So last fall, this government took a number of steps to provide the basis for reaching reasonable consensus.

First, we believe that organizations such as yours, and the general public, should know as much as possible about the state of our forest resources, and the outlook for the future.

That is why I have initiated a comprehensive audit of forest resources, to be conducted by Dean Gordon Baskerville, of the University of New Brunswick.

Dean Baskerville has full access to my ministry's information, and will have the resources available to him to fulfil his mandate.

I have asked him to complete his review by July 1 of this year. After I have received his report, I will publicly release both my ministry's account of our forest estate and Dean Baskerville's independent audit.

As well, last November I released to the public the provincial auditor's report on the forest management activities of MNR. I released my ministry's response to that report at the same time.

In the past, such a report would not have been made public unless the auditor chose to include it in his year end report to the Legislature. I believe, however, that public disclosure is vital if citizens are to participate actively -- and usefully -- in the forest management process.

I have also recently released the results of the five-year reviews of the first five Forest Management Agreements.

I am pleased to say that the results of the reviews show clearly that FMAs are the right approach to timber and resource management on publicly owned lands. They bear out the wisdom of the ministry in replacing the old-style timber licences with Forest Management Agreements.

Consider these statistics. The reviews have told us that during the first five years of the agreements, regeneration increased by 43 per cent, tending by 285 per cent, and site preparation by 30 per cent.

Those are impressive figures. They demonstrate that forestry companies in Ontario can and do respond in a responsible and efficient manner to forest management.

And we must not overlook the fact that the agreements also ensure that companies involve the public in planning forest activities. Public involvement will serve to further safeguard important considerations such as wildlife habitat and recreation areas.

The ministry will be moving ahead with additional FMAs in the coming months. I expect at least two more agreements will be signed this year. This will mean that more than 60 per cent of the licenced forest area in Ontario is covered by FMAs. We will have about 70 per cent of licenced lands covered when all agreements are in place.

I want to emphasize, however, that while MNR's role is changing through the FMAs, the ministry is still ultimately responsible for forest management.

Part of our changing role means an increased attention to the impact of timber management activities on the other users and uses of the forest environment. This focus is apparent in the ministry's Class Environmental Assessment for Timber Management which was submitted to the Ministry of the Environment one month ago.

The class EA is MNR's documentation of how we will meet our obligations under the Environmental Assessment Act. It provides real opportunities for public involvement in planning at every stage.

My colleague, the Honourable James Bradley, Minister of the Environment, will be co-ordinating a government review of the Class EA followed by a public review. The government review is expected to begin in the next week or so, and the public review will formally begin sometime this summer.

Groups such as the CCO have helped immensely in reviewing drafts of this EA, and I am sure you are interested in seeing what the document now contains. For this reason, we will be sending copies of the EA to you and many of your member organizations this week.

To help meet our obligations documented under the class EA, my ministry also has prepared a new Timber Management Planning Manual. This will replace and consolidate previous planning manuals.

The new manual will ensure that all ministry and company foresters and planners carry out the timber management planning process consistent with the direction of the class EA.

MNR is also producing manuals to assist in making timber management prescriptions where there are areas of value to other users of the forest. Drafts of these manuals, addressing fisheries habitat, moose, and tourism values will be available for review in the next month or so.

One of the changes to the planning process will mean that timber management planning will become more dynamic. Regular five-year renewal of Timber Management Plans will provide the opportunity to assess past performance, as well as provide the flexibility to make changes.

I am pleased with the direction that forest management is taking in this province. But at the same time, I realize that all these actions constitute only a first step in a new commitment to our forests.

I mentioned earlier that our forests are integral to tourism. That becomes readily apparent when you try to imagine a provincial park without trees. And it's just as hard to imagine a tourism industry without provincial parks.

We recognize the value of our parks system -- not just in terms of tourism dollars -- but also as wildlife habitat, and as a way to guarantee preservation of our tremendous natural heritage.

Through the creation of provincial parks, MNR is seeking to achieve its protection objectives in maintaining this heritage. Of the 104 parks created in the last three years, most will be left in their natural state.

Interim management plans are currently being completed for each new park. We are looking with interest at Woodland Caribou Provincial Park as it uses public consultation in developing a park management plan.

At the beginning of my talk today, I mentioned how important working with other ministries is in accomplishing many of our goals. We couldn't possibly represent different interests groups fairly or consistently, without a certain amount of overlap.

But, as I also said, when we have to work together we work together well. A good example is our provincial wetland policy. The wetland guidelines introduced by my ministry almost two years ago were the result of close collaboration between MNR, Agriculture and Food, and Municipal Affairs.

And right now, those same ministries, plus Transportation and Communications, are working together to help homeowners and municipalities cope with the problems caused by high water levels along the Great Lakes.

The whole nature of resource management demands that kind of collaboration and discussion. Just as it demands give and take among user groups. That's because our resources are not owned, they are shared.

I don't know if I really thought about that, and all its implications, before becoming Minister. I'm still a resource user. And like all Ontarians, I benefit indirectly from the economic contribution of all our natural resources.

But now, as Minister, I'm also responsible for allocating resources. And I realize that tough decisions are necessary in making allocations. Of course, I don't make any decisions without consulting and listening -- not only to my ministry staff, but to groups such as yours.

There have been, and will be, times when ministry decisions won't completely coincide with your individual ideas. But you can be sure that all sides have been considered, and every alternative weighed, in the decisions I'm involved in.

I'm going to make a quick change of hats now, and take a few minutes to talk to you as the Minister of Energy.

I also have a special feel for this ministry, having been on the other side as opposition critic for Energy.

As you know, the Ministry of Energy's mandate is to ensure that the people of Ontario have adequate supplies of energy -- at a reasonable cost, and with minimal impact on the environment.

I know you people have a particular interest in the environmental impact and that's what I'll concentrate on today.

First of all, public sector energy projects undertaken in Ontario must do so in accordance with our two major pieces of environmental legislation -- the Environmental Protection Act and the Environmental Assessment Act.

Both these acts provide for extensive public participation, and the government supports this public input as a very valuable aspect of the energy planning process.

The development of Ontario Hydro's conventional electrical power generation and distribution programs is governed by this legislation. In fact, two public hearings are under way right now regarding bulk transmission of electricity -- one in eastern Ontario and one dealing with southwest and central Ontario.

Another environmental issue that affects Ontario Hydro is that of sulphur dioxide emissions from its coal-burning generating stations.

In December 1981, Hydro was ordered to reduce its acid gas emissions to a maximum of 260,000 tonnes of sulphur dioxide, and 40,000 tonnes of nitrogen oxides by 1990.

Just last December, the government ordered Ontario Hydro to make additional reductions. The Minister of the Environment announced a new sulphur dioxide emission limit of 175,000 tonnes per year by 1994.

There are several options available to Hydro to meet this new level. One is the installation of wet scrubbers. Hydro has estimated that installing these scrubbers -- the most effective filtration system -- at approximately \$5-billion.

The government has left the choice of methods to meet the new regulation to Hydro.

Of course, there are other, alternative generation methods -- renewable energy sources such as wind turbines and photovoltaic arrays -- options that look attractive from an environmental standpoint.

And these alternative methods can be economical -- especially for those areas of the province not connected to the utility grid. However, in most areas of the province, most alternative energy methods have yet to prove their competitiveness with conventional generation.

One of the brighter lights on the energy scene these days is small hydro generation, and the Ministry of Energy is actively encouraging more small-scale generation projects across the province.

Developing this domestic capacity makes good sense for Ontario. It will provide a secure, renewable source of energy, and will offer some degree of flexibility in meeting our future energy needs.

It will also play a key role in Ontario's industrial economy. Our rapidly growing expertise in this field already produces most of Canada's small hydro equipment exports -- which amounted to some \$14-million in 1984.

The Ministry of Energy is providing assistance to municipalities, public utilities and conservation authorities, to help them determine the feasibility of developing small hydro sites that are under their control.

Just to finish up my remarks about energy, let me say that conservation -- including the more efficient use of energy -- is an obvious alternative energy supply option in our future. Through the Ministry of Energy, the government supports the wise and efficient use of energy, and will continue to support energy conservation through its policies and programs.

As I said at the beginning of my talk, I am glad to have this opportunity to meet with you today. I think you will find we share many of the same dreams and goals for the conservation and wise use of our provincial wealth of natural resources.

Each of you takes your responsibility as citizens seriously, or you wouldn't be here. I commend your commitment, and I welcome hearing your point of view.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

C A S O N
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REMARKS BY

HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

WORKSHOP ON THE ECONOMIC FUTURE
OF FORESTRY IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

SPONSORED BY THE

ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS ASSOCIATION

IN THE

GEORGIAN 'B' ROOM
SHERATON CASWELL MOTOR INN
SUDBURY, ONTARIO

JANUARY 31, 1986
11:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Greetings and thank you for this opportunity to talk about the future -- which, by the way, is a tricky topic.

I know you're all interested in the future. That's where most of us plan to spend the rest of our lives.

But whatever I say will lack a certain authority. People who talk about the future are like tour guides who say, "I haven't been to this place myself, but I'm sure it's going to be wonderful."

Actually, I think the future will be wonderful -- but only if we appreciate what we have.

For one thing, we have an important forest industry here in Ontario. Listen to these names: Marathon, Smooth Rock Falls, Terrace Bay and Schreiber, Iroquois Falls, Red Rock and Nipigon, Kapuskasing, Dryden, Espanola and Fort Frances.

Those are towns where 30 to 60 per cent of the local labor force depends directly on pulp and paper mills.

Then there are the towns where 30 per cent -- all the way up to 90 per cent -- of the local people work in sawmills, plywood mills and particle board mills.

They include Dubreuilville, Elk Lake, Calstock, Mead -- those are the ninety percenters. Then we have Nairn, Hudson, Searchmont, White River, Longlac and Geraldton, Chapleau and Hearst.

We have many northerners whose livelihood depends on northern forests. We also have a lot of southerners depending on forests.

Surprisingly, employment in forestry products manufacturing is greater in the south than the north. Of the total number of people employed directly and indirectly, 58 per cent are located in the south, compared to 42 per cent in the north. In terms of value of shipments, that southern industry is worth \$4 billion annually. This is about the same as the whole dairy products industry, or the provincial petroleum refining industry.

But the south provides only 20 per cent of the forest industry's raw wood supply. The rest comes from here.

So, north and south, we depend on northern forests. I wish more Ontarians were proud of that. There's nothing crude or simple about modern forest management and forest product manufacturing.

We are a forest society. That has been obvious to me for some time because I am familiar with the north and have spent a lot of time up here, even though my home riding is Niagara. I thought everyone knew how important and how complex forest management really is.

That's why it has been a shock to find out -- as I talk to people not connected with forest management -- how many misconceptions there are. Many people know about one or two techniques, but few people understand forest management as a whole. Others really believe our forests are finished and that we are looking at a sunset industry.

They are surprised when I tell them that Ontario's Crown forest today is really a storehouse bursting with old wood?

Of course, there are a few spots where it is difficult to find trees of a certain desired species or quality in the immediate area.

But, generally speaking, in the Ontario Crown forest today there is an overabundance of harvestable trees and an even greater number of trees that are past the optimum age for harvesting.

For example, in every one of the ministry's four northern regions, there is an excess of black spruce in the 90- to 100-year old range.

Across the province, there is a large inventory of even-aged stands that have reached rotation age at the same time for a variety of reasons.

Many intelligent people are worried we are cutting too much.

I don't think many people outside forestry circles realize that. If that's true, then many people also don't realize the implications.

For instance, what happens when that old forest -- the one created by Mother Nature -- is finally depleted by not only harvesting, but fire, insects and disease? Will there be a new forest in place, one that can keep our industries healthy and competitive?

Now, how many people understand that's what we are facing.

Of course, the answer to that question is "yes". We can and will replace the old forest with a new one. But it will have to be a forest planned and established by man. That means -- unlike natural forest stands -- the new forest will be expensive to produce.

But properly planned, this new forest also offers economic advantages. In the 40 to 50 years it will take to deplete the old forest, we have a golden opportunity to create something more ideal -- a forest with shorter rotation periods, higher stand volumes that is closer to existing mills.

It all depends on how well we plan. That's why decisions we make today are important. The forest we will get in 50 years will depend on where we decide to cut right now and where we decide to regenerate intensively.

That's where we are today -- and why we must make those who don't understand -- understand. Because without broad public support, we will not be able to plan and act effectively.

We certainly have a firm foundation on which to base our plans. The ministry has a good long-term sustained-yield production target that is based on demand projections.

We also have an implementation schedule that tells us how many hectares to treat and how many trees to produce to achieve our production target.

And we know that the system will work, because the ministry has refined the implementation schedule. We have had 13 years experience with that schedule. We know what works and what doesn't work.

We have a foundation. What we have to do now is inject some economics into the analysis to get the best return on investment, because we are investing big dollars. And we want to get the biggest return we can possibly get.

That's what most people have to understand.

If they do, they will realize our regeneration strategy must direct more intensive management to prime sites.

Let me define what I mean by "prime sites". They are not necessarily the most fertile. They are sites where there is an optimum combination of characteristics. They are sites where you can achieve the short rotations and largest volume increases for the least expense. They are also sites that are close to existing mills and where some access road system already exists.

Prime site management is an excellent approach. It strikes a balance between overstretching the supply of wood from the old forest and racing pell-mell to get a new forest on stream so there is no supply gap in about 50 years.

What this really means is accepting the fact that every hectare cut should not be treated with the same level of forest management investment.

Why let the forest -- as it is now -- dictate our every action? Let's create our own opportunities and, at the same time, aim for a forest where the cut can be harvested in an orderly fashion?

Let's let industry increase its cut. We could utilize the mature and overmature stands that are on their last legs anyway. More importantly, we could also cut out younger low value stands, and replace them with high value species.

It makes economic sense.

Concentrating on the prime sites means we will be able to grow more wood on less land. That will allow us to free up more forest for other purposes.

Focusing on prime sites allows us to spread our money wisely. We won't be spending big money on poor sites. This will allow us to put those dollars saved into more intensive treatments to accelerate production on better sites.

I believe most people will support this approach, because investing to get the biggest return is common sense.

Adopting a prime sites approach means moving toward putting forest management on a more economic footing.

Let's not wait for future supply gaps to develop after the old forest passes on. Let's sidestep tradition and start engineering the new forest now.

In the northeastern region, a test program to pinpoint and begin converting these prime sites is already in high gear.

But we are not just depending on prime sites. We have another weapon in our arsenal that we believe will change the future face of forestry.

We can increase volume through site selection and stand management, but there's a point where those gains -- once obtained -- cannot be increased.

The story is different, however, when we progressively breed, test and select the best in a species and use this stock to advance even further.

We can easily attain volume gains of 10 to 15 per cent in well-managed tree stands grown from seed if they are produced in a tested and rogued first-generation orchard. That's not a theory, it's a fact.

Another fact is that the ministry tree improvement program has advanced in giant leaps since 1980. The Ontario Tree Improvement Council which represents the industry and five ministry regions is a major player in our tree improvement efforts.

Today complete strategies are being developed for every species, work has begun on jack pine, and seed orchards are being established for both jack pine and black spruce.

White pine and white spruce clonal orchards continue to be established. More effort is being devoted to the clonal propagation of black spruce through the rooting of cuttings. Mating and test designs are being developed, and changes have been made in the design of clonal seed orchards.

There has been rapid change.

As a result, by 1995 all black spruce and jack pine seedlings and container stock that go into the ground in Ontario will be from superior seed from seed-orchard stock. By the year 2000, the same will be true for white pine and white spruce.

And here is something northerners should find interesting. We are concentrating 75 per cent of our provincial effort on two prime northern commercial species -- black spruce and jack pine.

These commercially valuable species have great genetic variation which gives us more elbow room for improvements.

The new forest will indeed be much different from the old forest -- individual trees will be thicker, taller, straighter, hardier and faster-growing.

And because of our prime site approach, they will be easy to get to and close to the mills.

It will also be a better forest because we will jealously protect our investment. We can't plant super trees and hope they survive. We have to tend the crop. And in the future, that's another area where there will be new emphasis.

Industry -- to the benefit of everyone -- will definitely be more involved in forest management in the future. There are a quarter of a million square kilometres of licensed forest in the province. Fifty-eight per cent is now under FMA's. By the end of the century, approximately 70 per cent will be under agreements.

The system of forest management that was in place for years is changing radically.

Before 1980, the government did everything -- except harvest. The government, although ultimately responsible, is now turning over much of the timber management operations to the private sector.

The reason is simple. When industry assumes responsibility for site preparation, regeneration and tending, these activities are integrated with harvesting in such a way that the overall management is more effective.

In the future, government foresters will be able to concentrate more and more on long range planning, market analyses, quality control, ensuring we remain flexible for the future and administering contracts. For years we've been using a highly skilled group of people to make sure seedlings got to a site and were planted properly.

That's an exaggeration -- but you see my point. We can use those people to better advantage. And we will. And we will be demanding more from provincial forestry staff. Foresters will have to know and understand more than just forestry to get ahead in the future.

At the same time, the ministry will maintain the base skills and the information needed to evaluate the private sector effort through its continuing management of Crown management units. I believe we're going to have better forests, better management, a better division of labor, more efficiency -- even superior trees -- in the future.

But we are not going to achieve any of this without public support.

There is no way the public will allow me -- or you -- to implement all the changes that are necessary to create a new forest unless they know the facts, know what's at stake and understand what we are trying to do.

But with your help, the public in the future will be better informed and more involved. And we must begin by giving them the facts.

That's why I released the Provincial Auditor's Report on Forest Management and made sure the five year reviews of the first forest management agreements got wide distribution.

It's why I have asked ministry foresters to prepare a state-of-the-union report on forest management, and have asked Dean Baskerville to review it. And I will release that information too.

It is also the reason why I hope the class environmental assessment for Crown land timber management is read widely.

The class EA gives the public great power. With that goes great responsibility. And that's exactly what we want -- a public who feel truly responsible for every aspect of resource management.

I'm certainly prepared to live with the results. I came into this job with no IOUs -- but with a real commitment to open government.

What I am asking you to do -- and you have a personal stake in this as foresters -- is to start going out of your way to educate the public about forestry matters.

Michael Innes, your past president, hit the nail on the head recently. In the magazine, Silviculture, he said let's tell our story "simply, well, consistently, with conviction, and backed up by facts which can be demonstrated to be accurate." And let's "do it over, and over and over again."

We desperately need a better-educated public to get involved and help us make the right decisions. If we can do that, we won't have to worry about the future.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY - 577

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

ONTARIO FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONVENTION

AT THE

AIRPORT HOLIDAY INN
TORONTO

FEBRUARY 8, 1986
1:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you for your warm welcome.

Before I really get into this speech, I would like to take a minute to try and pay off part of a big debt. I would like to present the OFA with a video copy of MNR's film, The Winter Camp. Those of you who had the pleasure of viewing this film last night will understand why we at the ministry are so proud of it.

I am sure your organization will be able to put the film to good use. It is partial payment for the volume of educational material the OFA has given ministry staff over the years.

Being here is a great honor for me -- in fact, you might say this is an historic event for both of us. This is the first time an Ontario Liberal Cabinet Minister has ever had the honor of addressing the Ontario Forestry Association.

But we are not complete strangers. I am already familiar with the OFA's dedication and its tireless efforts to make the public aware of the importance of this province's forest resources. That effort is near and dear to my heart and I want to talk a bit more about public awareness a little later on.

First, however, I would like to tell you something about who I am, and what I see happening in Ontario's forests in the coming years.

I came to the Ministry of Natural Resources without any IOUs or predetermined plans for forest management. What I did bring was the determination to learn, and a personal commitment to ensure that this vast, renewable and valuable resource continues to benefit all Ontarians -- through jobs, economic growth, tourism and recreation.

During these first seven months, I have been impressed by what I've seen and heard. I have been impressed by the dedication and professionalism of forestry people in the private sector, and in government.

Everyone I have met is genuinely interested in improving our forests.

I have also been impressed by existing programs. I'm speaking of the Forest Management Agreements, the tree improvement program, new environmental protection initiatives, and forestry technology research and development. Ontario foresters have a lot to be proud of. Ontario has a strong forest industry.

In my travels around the province, I have also talked to people who are not involved in the forest industry. The sad thing, I have found, is that many of these people are not aware of the achievements of forest specialists, and what's being done to improve the forests for future generations.

Some believe that Ontario is really going to run out of wood. Others think the forest sector is a sunset industry.

Some don't realize the economic importance of the forest industry. Others think regeneration efforts have failed, and that the best prescription may be to drastically reduce cutting and preserve the trees.

You know that Ontario is not running out of wood. You know that in many areas of northern Ontario we have a problem of surplus wood. If we don't address this very soon, we are going to lose millions of dollars worth of mature and overmature wood to insects, disease and fire. That is why the protection of our forests is so important.

You know the importance of the forest industry. You know that more than half of those employed either directly or indirectly in forest products manufacturing live in southern Ontario. Southern forest products manufacturing brings in as much as the entire provincial dairy products industry.

I don't think most people have an accurate picture of what is happening in the forest. How can they? We've never told them clearly. Now is the time to correct these misconceptions.

We need to tell Ontarians that:

- Forestry is a multi-billion dollar industry that we take for granted at our economic peril;
- that this industry is productive, efficient and responsible;
- that more than 140,000 Ontarians are directly or indirectly employed in forestry;
- that many of our technologies and forest management practices are being adapted by other jurisdictions; and that
- Ontario has wood supplies to last for generations if they are managed and harvested effectively.

We need to tell Ontarians that good forest management is being practised, that Ontario foresters are among the best in the world.

We have to make the public more aware. I only say this to underline my commitment. I don't have to tell you people how important that is. The OFA has been saying things like this for years.

You are still working hard to make the public aware of forestry and its importance. The theme of your conference this year -- Forestry, Not in My Backyard -- the NIMBY syndrome -- more than proves that.

It underlines the importance of public education in gaining support for such things as logging and spraying. That's why I made it a point to get out to a number of the 24 open houses the ministry held recently to get public reaction to our budworm and gypsy moth spraying proposals. These efforts are vital if the forest industry is to continue to develop.

How can I best support our mutual effort? I think the first step is to establish a public data base of accurate information about forest management.

If people are worried about our forests, it's because they feel too much is being cut, that there's some sort of hidden agenda, that they are not getting the facts.

Let's get the facts out and let people judge for themselves. Let's tell them what is happening, where we should be heading and what the options are. That is the only way we are going to get people interested and involved. And that paves the way for more public participation in decision-making.

I think I've made a good start on this. Last fall, I asked my forestry staff to prepare a comprehensive report on the present and projected state of our forest resources. That report has been submitted and is now being reviewed by an objective third party -- Dean Baskerville of the University of New Brunswick.

Dean Baskerville will not only be poring through our files, he will also be "ground-truthing" what he learns by reviewing the history of operations in three forest management units chosen at random.

I have asked Dean Baskerville for his report by July 1 of this year. That report will become public information.

In November, I tabled in the House the Provincial Auditor's report on the forest management activities of the Ministry of Natural Resources. At the same time, I tabled my ministry's responses to that report.

In the past, such a report would not have been made public unless the Auditor chose to include it in his year-end report to the Legislature. We believe, however, that in the case of forest management, public disclosure is vital if citizens are to participate actively in the forest management process.

In December, I released the results of the review of the first five Forest Management Agreements and I made sure they got wide circulation.

The results of those reviews indicate FMAs have tremendous potential.

I am pleased to say the ministry will be moving ahead with additional FMAs in the coming months. I expect at least two more agreements will be signed this year. This will bring the total number of agreements to 28, covering more than 60 per cent of licenced forest area in Ontario. I expect we will have approximately 70 per cent of licenced lands covered when all agreements are in place.

FMAs are part of a series of basic changes that will alter the way forests are managed in Ontario forever.

MNR is still ultimately responsible, but MNR foresters are focusing on long range planning, quality control, and strategies to prepare the new forest that must be ready within 80 years.

The physical jobs connected with managing the forest will be taken over by companies. We are talking about a major change in traditional roles.

We are adjusting to a new way of doing things. From now on, we will not necessarily cut the oldest trees, wherever they are, follow the cut and treat every harvested area alike.

We are adopting a prime sites approach -- identifying those sites with the best combination of certain qualities. Those qualities include ability to grow bigger trees faster, proximity to existing mills and proximity to existing access roads.

We are going to sidestep tradition and engineer a forest that will suit industry's needs. We are going for a forest that is more ideal than the one nature accidentally handed us.

We won't be waiting for those prime sites to become available, either. We will be clearing what's on many of those sites so we can get a better crop growing now.

I'm excited by these changes because they make sense. We will be attempting to do something that is very similar to farming trees -- instead of being led by tradition and the belief every hectare deserves equal attention. Because of economics, there are some sites we may never return to. Those areas can be freed for other purposes.

We will be taking advantage of advances our staff have made in tree improvement. By 1995, all black spruce and jack pine seedlings that go into the ground will be from superior parent trees in established seed orchards. By the year 2000, we will also be planting super white spruce and white pine seed and seedlings from similar orchards.

Why should we settle for modest volume increases when we know we can get increases of 10 to 15 per cent by just using seed from a first generation seed orchard? That's just the beginning.

These are exciting changes. But they can be held back by lack of public awareness and support. That's why I welcome the implementation of the class environmental assessment for timber management activity on Crown land.

The class environmental assessment provides real opportunities for public involvement in planning at every stage. It provides a real forum where concerns will have to be dealt with.

I believe this will improve forest management and increase the public sense of responsibility for forest management.

The class environmental assessment has already produced improvements. To prepare for this new process, the ministry has completely reviewed and revised its processes for the preparation of timber management plans.

The result is the creation of a new timber management manual for Ontario -- a complete, up-to-date reference work that describes in detail how forest management plans must be prepared.

The draft of the class environmental assessment for timber management was submitted to the Ministry of the Environment on December 31. I urge the OFA and its members to take part in any hearings that will be held as part of the public review.

For the people of this province, these meetings are extremely important. They are a way to understand, and directly influence, how forest management will be carried out in the future. They represent one more stage in the public education process, and support my commitment to open government.

Forest management in Ontario is undergoing a series of major changes. In order to adapt to those changes wisely, we must have an informed, involved public.

People must understand that management is not a single technique; it is a multi-faceted process whose parts are interconnected. And they must understand that sometimes the common cause dictates that changes must be accepted -- even if they affect your backyard.

Much of my talk today has focused on the future. However, we must not forget that Ontarians today benefit from the forests because of the management practices developed by foresters in the past. To them we owe a special debt.

Think back to the late 1940s, when Ontario first considered the need for a planned approach to the development and utilization of the forests. At that time a handful of dedicated foresters were assembled to begin the planned development.

Today, it is a great honor for me to pay special tribute to one of those early planners -- Dr. Walter Plonski, a professional forester who contributed much to the development and protection of forests in Canada. Not surprisingly, he is now affectionately known as the father of Ontario's forest management planning.

Although he retired from public service more than 15 years ago, we are still benefiting from his immense contributions to forestry. In fact, it was not long after I was appointed Minister that I began to hear about Dr. Plonski, his planning techniques, his yield tables and his forward thinking.

His work in the Englehart forest area and other parts of Ontario, followed by the application of these principles in the 1950s, set the stage for the formal process of forest management.

Many of the benefits that Ontario enjoys from its forests are due to Dr. Plonski's dedication and concern for this province's natural resources. He is an inspiration to foresters and his work led to many improvements in our forest planning and practices.

As Minister of Natural Resources for Ontario, I am proud to be here with Walter Plonski's friends, colleagues and admirers in paying tribute to a man who exemplifies the professional forester.

In recognition of these contributions, the ministry's Englehart Crown Forest Management Unit will be now be named the Walter L. Plonski Forest.

Dr. Plonski, that is by no means the end. We are not going to stop with just naming a forest after you.

I have something here from foresters from all walks of life, all over the Province of Ontario.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of the Ontario Forestry Association, I would like to present to you the first award of its kind ever given by the OFA -- the Ontario Forestry Award.

This award will be given only to those who have made lasting and significant contributions to forest management in Ontario -- in other words, people who have changed history.

I would like to read the inscription on this award:

"From 1948 to 1970, Walter Plonski worked as a forester with the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests where he exemplified the highest principles of professional forestry. His considerable experience, coupled with love for his work and a warm personality, led to significant advances in forest management in the province. Fortunate were those who worked with him for they learned from an accomplished forester and teacher."

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a pleasure for me to ask Walter Plonski to step forward so we can all join in honoring one of Ontario's, and Canada's, forest pioneers.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

REMARKS BY

JAMES MCGUIGAN

PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

HALTON/NORTH PEEL NATURALIST CLUB

AT THE

HALTON HILLS LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTRE
GEORGETOWN, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 11, 1986
7:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

One of the nice things about being the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources is that I get to travel across the province and talk to people who share my interests.

I come from a village called Cedar Springs, which is just north of Lake Erie between Rondeau Provincial Park and Point Pelee National Park. I'm sure you're all familiar with this part of Ontario -- with its varied forms of plants and wildlife.

Having lived in this beautiful part of the province all my life, I guess it's not surprising that I, like you, have a great interest in ecology and the preservation of nature.

I was trained as a botanist and horticulturalist, and have spent most of my life as a farmer. Now as a politician, I'm happy to have the opportunity to help influence government policy -- especially as it affects our natural resources.

I'm proud of the important work the Ministry of Natural Resources is doing. I'd like to talk to you this evening about some of our initiatives that affect you.

But first I'd like to commend you and your sister clubs across Ontario for the help you've given the ministry over the years.

I'm thinking of the valuable input we've had from you and other naturalists in preparing two of our most important initiatives in recent years -- our Guidelines for Wetlands Management and our District Land Use Guidelines.

Your written suggestions and your participation in our open houses have helped us establish what we feel are useful blueprints for the future.

As you know, the wetlands guidelines are designed to be incorporated into the official plans of municipalities. We expect they'll become mandatory under the Planning Act within two years.

And of course you're all familiar with the District Land Use Guidelines which led, among other things, to the doubling of our provincial park system.

You may recall that our District Land Use Guidelines identified 155 proposed provincial parks. So far, 104 of these parks have been regulated -- including the 11 new parks along the Niagara Escarpment. We expect the rest of the parks will be regulated within the next year or so.

We've created these parks to safeguard even more of Ontario's resources for the future. We plan to keep these new parks in as natural a state as possible.

In fact, more than half of them -- including seven of the 11 along the escarpment -- are classified as Nature Reserves. To protect these special sites, trails and lookouts are carefully placed and no development is permitted.

I know many of you are especially interested in the latest news on Forks of the Credit Provincial Park. First of all, I want to say that we are pleased with the results of our open house last November on the draft management plan. I'd like to thank those of you who took part.

We are still waiting for comments from the Town of Caledon -- and expect them in the very near future.

Although the specifics haven't been worked out yet, I can give you a general idea of what we expect at this park.

Forks of the Credit will continue to be a day-use park centred around activities like hiking and cross-country skiing. One of the things we'd like to do is improve parking and vehicle access. In addition, we hope to have a total of 14 kilometres of trails in the park -- and possibly a foot bridge across the river.

We expect to have the park management plan completed by the end of March. Once again, I'd like to thank you for your help in preparing a master plan for this spectacular site.

As for the Willoughby property adjacent to the park, I can bring you up to date on the latest developments. Last month, Bert Willoughby and the Ontario Heritage Foundation reached an agreement concerning this 40-hectare parcel of land.

As you know, most of this land has been generously donated by Mr. Willoughby -- part of it will be sold to the foundation. This arrangement will be finalized next month, at a meeting of the foundation's board of directors.

After this final stamp of approval, the Ontario Heritage Foundation will meet with all interested parties -- including the ministry -- to decide how the property will be used, and who will manage it. Both the Town of Caledon and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority have expressed an interest in this parcel of land.

If you are interested in participating in discussions on the future of the Willoughby property, I urge you to contact the Credit Valley Conservation Authority or the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

I'm afraid I don't have as much news on the Cox property -- a smaller piece of land next to Forks of the Credit Provincial Park. As you may know, the ministry declined to purchase this site because it is separated from the park by a railway line. However, next month, the Ontario Heritage Foundation will decide whether it will purchase this property and, if so, who will manage it.

While I'm on the topic of interesting parcels of land, I would like to tell you about sites we have designated as areas of natural and scientific interest.

Our District Land Use Guidelines identified more than 600 of these areas across the province. More than half of them are on private lands. What we're trying to do is find ways to protect the interesting geological or ecological features of these areas.

We've identified two outstanding areas of natural and scientific interest in your area.

One of them is the Iroquois Shoreline Woods in Oakville. This forested area located on a ridge was once the shoreline of glacial Lake Iroquois, the forerunner of Lake Ontario. You can see this interesting stretch of geological history if you look north as you drive along the QEW, by the Ford plant.

We're currently working with the Town of Oakville, which owns part of this site, to find ways to keep it as natural as possible.

The second area of natural and scientific interest we've identified in your area is the 21-square-kilometre Halton Forest, north of Milton and Campbellville.

This area is particularly important because it is large, relatively undisturbed and close to an area that's developing rapidly. In the months and years ahead, we hope to work with you, private landowners and others to explore ways of protecting this forest and its unique values.

I should also add that the Ministry of Natural Resources is also one of the participants in the World Wildlife Fund's Carolinian Canada project. As you know, this project is aimed at curbing losses of critical habitats for endangered plants and animals in the Carolinian Region.

While I'm on the topic of conservation, I would like to spend a few moments to clarify some current misconceptions about our conservation authorities.

Some naturalists have suggested that there's been a recent change in the role of the conservation authorities. And I know some of you are concerned about some non-water management activities being carried out by our CAs.

First of all, I would like to stress that there has been no change in the mandate of our conservation authorities. Their first and foremost responsibility is water management -- flood and erosion control, protecting life and property, and wetland preservation.

Their secondary responsibility continues to be managing the resources on their lands. Managing the forests, fisheries, wildlife, environmentally sensitive areas, and outdoor recreation.

As you know, some of our CAs, especially those near Metropolitan Toronto, have recently become more involved in recreation development. This is in response to growing needs in the area.

I want to make it clear that, under The Conservation Authorities Act, recreation projects are entirely within the mandate of the CAs.

I know there's some concern about the private sector becoming involved in some of these projects. Well, in these days of tight budgets and fiscal restraint, such partnerships with the private sector are essential. Quite simply, much of this work wouldn't get done without that influx of private capital.

Incidentally, before CAs can lease land to private interests, the CAs must get approval from Cabinet and obtain input from the affected municipalities. So there are controls in place to ensure that the conservation authorities operate within the best public interest.

There are also opportunities for public input. If you want to have some say in how these public lands are managed, I urge you to do so. Appear before the members of a CA or one of its advisory boards. Contact the CA representative appointed by your council. Speak to your municipal council. You can also write the Minister of Natural Resources to express concern about a specific CA decision.

The one thing our government is stressing is a firm commitment to openness.

We want you to know that you are indeed an important part of our decision making process. We want you to know that your suggestions and concerns are heard and respected.

We know you have a lot of good ideas, and that you're very much concerned with the future of the resources in this area -- and across the province.

We at the Ministry of Natural Resources share that concern. We want to make the best resource management decisions possible -- and we can do that best with your help.

Your efforts to date -- with our wetlands and land use guidelines and many other initiatives -- have been very much appreciated. I hope we can work even more closely together in the future.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Publications

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REMARKS BY - S7-

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

ONTARIO FOREST INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING

ROYAL YORK HOTEL, TORONTO

FEBRUARY 13, 1986
12:15 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Thank you for this opportunity. I have been looking forward to this occasion for some time now for I recognize that the OFIA is one of the most important clients MNR has in assisting us in making sound resource management decisions.

I see this podium as the place to be if you want to break some new ground in forest management. And that's exactly what I want to do in the coming months and years.

I want to do that even though I know that trying to implement what you believe in is not always possible.

Sometimes you have to assess the options, choose the best and go with it. That doesn't mean you stop trying to achieve what you think is best.

During January, my ministry held a series of open houses throughout Ontario to gather public reaction to the ministry's proposed spray program. Those proposals called for the selected use of chemical insecticide in remote areas where budworm infestation was particularly virulent.

Our latest count showed that 1,590 people attended the 20 open houses in northern Ontario, and that 1,030 people filled in comment sheets. Of those people, 80 per cent approved our proposed spray program, four per cent wanted a program that was broader than the one proposed, 13 per cent wanted only a biological insecticide used, and three per cent wanted no spraying at all.

We had good support for the proposed program in the affected areas -- and I think we should all be happy about that. It was a strong signal that those who took the trouble to listen to the case being made by the ministry and industry understood the urgency, what was at stake and the balanced program that was proposed.

I believe, in the years to come, that support will remain.

Given that the government was in the midst of a consultative process, I appreciate the participation of the public and industry in that consultation. We wanted that public consultation process to run its course. It's regrettable, but that option has been taken from us. That's the reality of a minority government.

It became obvious yesterday in the Legislature that the government would not get the support of the House for a program that included chemical insecticides.

That is why we have decided to use only a biological insecticide in the 1986 aerial spraying program to fight budworm and gypsy moth.

I would have liked to have delayed this announcement until today so you would have been the first to hear it. But I needed to act quickly yesterday to ensure we had a program.

I want to explain for a moment what I mean by that. The Official Opposition (or Conservative Party) was prepared to hold the Government's legislative program hostage on the issue of chemical spraying, and they were prepared to withhold support for any spraying program.

I have some sympathy for the fact you believe that a combination of biological and chemical sprays is the best alternative in the more severely infested areas.

However, the biological insecticide is effective. It works. We should also remember that it will be used in an aerial spray program three times larger than any previous program, including that implemented by the previous government last year.

We do not have the option of implementing the exact program we proposed, but we do have a program that will be far-reaching and effective.

Our consultation program itself has been effective. Through it, we have made significant gains in making the public aware of industry's needs. We have also gained support and acceptance for a massive protection program.

That is real progress in an area where it is hard to achieve gains in public awareness.

You realize most people outside forestry circles don't appreciate what we have here in Ontario. They don't really understand how complex forest management is. There is no sense that Ontario is one of the world's great forest regions, that our foresters are world-class and that we are a forest society.

Many people are convinced Ontario is running out of wood, that you people all work for a sunset industry. Others believe all forest regeneration efforts have failed.

Somebody has to tell these people that forestry got this province on its feet, it built the first roads and schools and public facilities, and it helped open up the north.

Somebody has to get across the message that -- today -- more than 140,000 people are employed directly and indirectly in forest products manufacturing. Somebody has to broadcast the fact that more than half of those people can be found working -- not in northern Ontario -- but in southern Ontario. I wonder how many people realize that?

Or how about the fact that the southern Ontario forest products industry -- in terms of value of shipments -- rivals the whole provincial dairy products industry? Or, for that matter, the provincial petroleum resources industry?

People also don't appreciate the good job forest industry people are doing. They don't appreciate how committed you are, what you contribute to this province -- aside from jobs.

Every year, the forest industry provides \$60-million in revenue through direct taxes and fees. It pays one-third of the cost of managing Crown land forests, and one-half the \$3-million annual cost of maintaining the province's Forest Resources Inventory.

Yet the serious misconceptions remain. To some people these misconceptions have been repeated so often, they are now regarded as fact.

The biggest misconception has to be that Ontario is running out of wood. Yet, as you know, we have a wood surplus right now in this province.

Granted, there are a few areas where we may have to go further to get certain species of a certain size.

But, generally speaking, in the Ontario Crown land forest today there is an overabundance of harvestable trees, and an even greater number of trees that are past the optimum age for harvesting.

That's the kind of thing that struck me when I became minister. Although you can point to all kinds of efforts to tell our story properly, we have still come up short.

But we have to keep on trying because forest management in this province is changing rapidly. And many of these changes require public support if they are to be implemented smoothly.

The public will not support us if they are not informed and involved. That means that public awareness and public involvement are keys to the future.

Here is what I see happening.

The old natural forest that we have always depended on is declining, however this forest will continue to supply ample wood for industry well into the next century. The long-term challenge we face is making sure there is a new forest in place when the old natural forest is depleted. I might add that the old forest is disappearing because of fire, disease and insects -- as well as harvesting.

That new forest must be on line within 50 years. It will have to be planned and established largely by man. It will be an engineered forest, and that means the new forest will be expensive.

We can do it because we have targets based on demand projections and an implementation schedule we have refined over a period of 14 years. We know what works, and what doesn't.

We also know that we must make the most of our investment.

Properly planned, the new forest will provide substantial return to industry. We can place it closer to mills, on fertile sites that will allow shorter rotations and increased volumes. We can place it in areas where access road networks have already been established.

This is the prime site approach, and it is the approach my ministry has adopted. We are focusing our investment of regeneration dollars in those areas that will produce the best return for the investment. At the same time, we are engineering a forest that is tailor-made for industry.

We are injecting more economics into our system of managing Ontario's forests. We are putting forestry on a more business-like footing.

But we are not just depending on prime sites. We have another weapon in our arsenal -- the gains that are possible through genetic improvement of the seed and seedlings that will create the new stands on prime sites.

Forest managers can increase volumes by using prime sites, but genetic gain goes much further. By using seed from a first-generation seed orchard foresters can immediately obtain volume increases ranging from 10 to 15 per cent.

Because of rapid advances in our tree improvement program in the past six years, the ministry is now committed to several initiatives.

By 1995, all black spruce or jack pine seedlings used in regeneration of prime sites will be from genetically improved parent stock in seed orchards. By the year 2000, only genetically improved white spruce and white pine will be used in the regeneration of these sites.

That is only a start. We will be working with many groups to adapt scientific knowledge for practical purposes.

For example, five of your member companies and five of our regions are working together through the Ontario Tree Improvement Council to ensure that the operational tree improvement programs will be developed to produce genetically improved seed as quickly and effectively as possible.

At the same time, we must deal aggressively with our surplus wood. For the next 20 to 40 years, depending on markets, we will increase cutting in mature and overmature stands to prevent the waste of millions of dollars worth of timber.

We will direct some of this surplus, whenever it is reasonable, to facilities that already exist, but are not being fully used.

We do not believe this is something that can be done unilaterally and without proper input and consideration from all who may be affected. I am therefore pleased that a small group of your people and ministry staff will shortly be looking at the matter of depletion calculation, allocation and surplus.

In many areas, the government will also allow the cutting of younger stands that are located on prime sites where more valuable, higher volume stands could be intensively managed and grown.

I am describing major changes in the way we approach forest management. But government will not be able to effect these changes alone. We will need the help and support of industry -- a continuation of a long and productive partnership.

My ministry continues to rely on your advice and suggestions about forest management.

Several examples of our strong partnership come to mind. The development of a budworm spray program to protect our forests is only one.

FMAs are another. Forest Management Agreements are part of a series of basic changes that will alter the way forests are managed in Ontario forever.

MNR is still ultimately responsible, but MNR foresters are focusing on long range planning, quality control, and strategies to prepare the new forest that must be ready within 80 years.

The physical jobs connected with managing the forest will be taken over by companies. We are talking about a major change in traditional roles.

We are adjusting to a new way of doing things. From now on, we will not necessarily cut the oldest trees, wherever they are, follow the cut and treat every harvested area alike.

Some industry representatives have expressed concern about the government's commitment to the FMA program. In December, I released the results of the review of the first five Forest Management Agreements. The results of those reviews indicate FMAs continue to have tremendous potential and are proceeding well.

We are very pleased with the results of these reviews and I want to take this opportunity to re-affirm our commitment to this program.

Moreover, we intend to sign two more FMAs this year. This means that by the end of 1986 there will be 28 agreements in place covering more than 60 per cent of licenced forest areas in Ontario.

FMAs are changing the face of forestry in Ontario -- for the better. They are giving us more efficient timber management by involving those who harvest in all the activities.

When I talked about our prime sites approach, accelerated cutting, and injecting economics into the analyses, I told you government can't do it alone. We need your help. But, it is also essential to have another partner -- the public.

For that reason, the other major direction the government is taking is in the area of public awareness.

As I said earlier, it seems to me that there has been a general failure to tell the story of forest management simply, well and consistently. What's needed is a broad-based, comprehensive program that involves everyone connected to forest management.

I know about the fine public awareness programs that individual companies have initiated -- for example, the work being done by Abitibi-Price and E.B. Eddy, just to mention two.

To me, public awareness is the key to our success in the future -- success in everything from protecting the forest to making sure your companies prosper.

It will be an uphill struggle, too, because as one spokesman for industry has already pointed out recently -- the bad news arrived before the good news.

I believe the place to start is with the facts about forest management. I want to go back and rebuild the foundation upon which public attitudes to forestry rest.

That's why we released the provincial auditor's report on forest management and my ministry's response to that report. That's why I made sure the FMA review was released in the legislature and got wide circulation.

That's why I implemented a complete report on the state of Ontario's forest resources, today and in the future.

That report will be reviewed by Gordon Baskerville, Dean of the Faculty of Forestry at the University of New Brunswick. That review and my ministry's report will be made public. So will the on-site studies Dean Baskerville is undertaking in selected forest management units that he will choose at random.

We need public input and involvement in the decisions affecting forest management. And we can only have public involvement and support if the people of Ontario have the facts and believe they have the true picture.

Not only must the misconceptions about forest management be corrected. But the public must also be provided the opportunity to take part in the forest management decision-making process.

To that end, my ministry has submitted the class environmental assessment for timber management activity on Crown land to the Minister of the Environment. It is now being reviewed by the Ministry of the Environment and I expect public hearings will begin later this year.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has already begun to implement the principle outlined in the class environmental assessment through the application of the new Timber Management Planning Manual.

The Timber Management Planning Manual provides formal opportunities for the public and all users of Crown land resources to be involved in the preparation and review of timber management plans.

Forest managers, both in government and industry, are much more conscious about environmental concerns these days. But the class environmental assessment and our new Timber Management Planning Manual makes it a formal part of their job.

As you know, up to now the primary legislative basis for timber management activity in Ontario has been the Crown Timber Act. In future, plans approved in accordance with the Timber Management Planning Manual will not only comply with the Crown Timber Act, but must also formally comply with the Environmental Assessment Act.

What will be the long term results of implementing this new procedure? I sincerely believe that years from now, we will look back and say that was the point when things began to change, when forest management ceased to have such a polarizing effect on our society.

I also hope it will mark the start of a time when more and more Ontarians began to realize their identity is tied to the forests, when they accepted the fact they are part of a forest society, a fact that is far more apparent in European countries than it is in Canada.

We are a forest society. Ontario's story is a forest story. Just look at our history books. Or, look at a recent film produced by my ministry that really describes the roots of that strong forest tradition. It's called The Winter Camp and will be shown later this afternoon.

I think you'll probably want to see it more than once. So I've come prepared. I am presenting the OFIA with its own video copy. It's a small token of our appreciation for all the help and advice you have given MNR over the years.

I wish everyone in Ontario had the opportunity to see this film. Understanding our roots is the starting point for increasing public awareness, involvement and support.

We need public support to meet the challenges of the future. We need an informed public -- one that understands the goals of forest management activities.

I can hope for a day -- and we all should -- when the majority of Ontarians believe that the goals of government, industry and the public are not only reconcilable, but are the same.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY - 577

MARY MOGFORD
DEPUTY MINISTER
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DURING THE

DEPUTY MINISTERS' SESSION ON
PROVINCIAL POLICIES THROUGH 1990

AT THE

CANADIAN LUMBERMEN'S ASSOCIATION
78TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

QUEEN ELIZABETH HOTEL
MONTREAL, P.Q.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1986
10:00 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

I want to thank all CLA members for this opportunity and this honor. The CLA is one of the most important forest resources groups in Canada. If you are a resources Deputy Minister, this convention is the place to be.

I am also conscious of the long history of co-operation between your organization and the Ontario government. We grew up together. The year you began -- 1907 -- was the year forestry in Ontario began, with the creation of our first forestry school at the University of Toronto.

For more than three-quarters of a century, we've enjoyed a tradition of accomplishing things together. The ministry looks forward to many more years of working constructively together.

We have a good partnership. We accomplish a lot. At the same time, even when working closely together, it is not always possible to achieve everything we want.

In that vein, let me share with you some information about our 1986 aerial spraying program in Ontario, which you have no doubt read about in the news in the last couple of days.

I think the best way to approach this is to quote directly from parts of a speech my Minister, Vincent Kerrio, made yesterday to the Ontario Forest Industries Association. Quote:

"We have decided to use only a biological insecticide in the 1986 aerial spraying program to fight budworm and gypsy moth.

The Official Opposition was prepared to hold the Government's legislative program hostage on the issue of chemical spraying, and they were prepared to withhold support for any spraying program.

I have some sympathy for the fact you believe that a combination of biological and chemical sprays is the best alternative in the more severely infested areas.

However, the biological insecticide is effective. It works. We should also remember that it will be used in an aerial spray program three times larger than any previous program, including that implemented by the previous government last year." Unquote.

I don't have to tell you that we both trying to protect a multi-billion dollar resource with our protection program. I think we can take some comfort in the consultation process.

We had tremendous support from the public for our spray program in the affected areas. We should all be happy about that. The public got involved and is starting to become more aware of the urgency, just what is at stake and they came to the aid of the industries that mean so much to them in northern Ontario.

That, in itself, is a major achievement

Now, in 1986, let me outline some other ministry policies that, I trust, will continue to strengthen our partnership.

These policies are aimed at making more wood available, increasing profit stability and improving public awareness of -- and support for -- your industry. The forest estate, itself, will also be managed more intensively and more effectively.

The ministry believes the generally depressed markets of the past few years will gradually improve. There will not be a dramatic surge. But things should slowly get better if government does its part, and industry maintains productivity and continues to improve and modernize.

It is also essential to maintain the partnership that has been developed between government and the CLA over the years.

As you know, Ontario is not suffering from a general lack of wood. In all four of our northern regions, there is an excess of softwood in the 100-year plus classes.

Across the province, there is a large inventory of even-aged stands that have reached or surpassed rotation age at the same time, for a variety of reasons.

As a result, for the next 20 to 40 years, Ontario's policy will be to utilize as many of these stands as possible. Also, it is our policy to direct these surpluses, whenever possible, to facilities such as sawmills and others that already exist, but are not being fully used.

The ministry has just begun to implement this policy. And we will continue to steer this extra wood your way for what we believe will be many years to come.

We are aware of the problems. Existing union agreements, for instance, can prevent the free movement of such surpluses.

We are also aware that half of the tree length winds up as either chips or roundwood, and that sawmills depend on sales of this material to pulp mills. And, unfortunately, there is a glut of material in the fibre market.

The other problem, of course, is access. A good percentage of the surplus material ready for rotation is -- in some cases -- more than ready. But it is not located near sawmills or access road networks.

We are talking here about surplus mature and overmature stands. But there may also be younger stands closer to markets that will have to be cut as part of another policy the ministry is beginning to implement.

That policy is the prime sites approach to forest management. Prime forest sites are those which provide the best combination of four elements -- fast growth, increased volumes, proximity to mills, and access to nearby road systems.

What we are doing now is injecting more economics into our forest production program. We are identifying our prime sites, and will put our best effort into them.

We have already begun to identify these sites in northeastern Ontario. Wherever possible, we will be harvesting mature stands on these sites and replanting with commercially valuable species that will be managed intensively.

This policy of not waiting, of engineering the new forest by converting the stands on prime sites, will also provide more raw material for your industry.

Prime sites are not the only way we plan to increase production. We will be using improved seed and seedlings. By 1995, we will be planting only genetically improved black spruce and jack pine on prime sites. By the year 2000, every white spruce and white pine seedling used to regenerate a cutover will also be genetically improved on these sites.

Productive sites can increase wood volumes -- but only to a point. Genetic gains can take you far beyond that point. The first time seed from a first-generation seed orchard is used, the volume gain can be as much as 10 to 15 per cent.

Larger, straighter trees also provide better quality lumber. The improvements, of course, increase with each succeeding step in a breeding program.

Another policy the ministry is pursuing is the improvement of hardwood forests in the Algonquin Region, and in parts of eastern and northeastern Ontario.

Fifteen years ago, the ministry set out to rebuild those forests damaged by highgrading in the past. We focused on valuable species, particularly maple, yellow birch, oak, basswood and cherry.

Our selective cutting program removed poorer quality material to free up the growth of good material. Those forests have improved significantly.

The short-term good news for your industry is that we will soon be entering those stands again to begin a second improvement cut. That will provide more hardwood for the lumber industry.

We will be removing better quality material than our first improvement cut produced. The long term good news is that those hardwood forests will continue to improve in quality.

As a result, you can expect to see better and better material coming your way in the future.

The ministry is also pleased with the results of the initial review of the first Forest Management Agreements that began in 1980. Compared to work done on the same sites in the previous five years, industry made significant increases in regeneration and tending.

More than half the licenced area in the province is under FMAs. In time, approximately 70 per cent will be under FMAs.

While FMAs have provided us with a new and valuable means of forest management, MNR is still the agency that is ultimately responsible. But because companies are taking over the on-site work -- and doing a good job -- MNR foresters can now devote more time to long range planning, market analyses and quality control.

We now have the time to plan the kind of forests you will need to compete in the international market in the future.

That's a benefit. The other good news is that sawmillers are now getting involved in the FMA program. Two companies -- Malette and the Dubreuil brothers -- signed agreements last year. This year, operators around Hearst will be entering into agreements.

This new development is proof that the sawmilling industry has matured.

The ministry believes there are at least two or three other sawmilling companies -- maybe more -- that will be able to take on agreements and the major responsibility for most forest management activities.

Another major policy that has affected -- and will continue to affect -- the lumber industry is Ontario's policy of indexing Crown dues.

That policy began in 1978. At that time, independent sawmillers were paying more than integrated pulp and paper companies for, say, a cubic metre of jack pine -- \$2.25 compared to \$1.96.

When double indexing began in April of 1984, however, sawmills were paying \$2.85 for a cubic metre of jack pine, compared to \$3.19 being paid by integrated pulp and paper companies.

In the last quarter of 1985, independents were paying significantly less -- \$3.20, compared to \$3.78 a cubic metre. The system has worked in your favor.

And we think it's a good system because it helps your industry stay responsive to shifts in the market.

Very briefly, I would like to mention a few other policies that also have a bearing on the health of the lumbering industry.

In addition to an increased forest protection program, MNR has also been implementing policies that make our own internal organization more efficient -- policies such as integrated resource management, or IRM.

By integrating resource management, staff in all program areas check all plans with their colleagues. That means not only forestry staff are aware of your needs -- all staff are, from fire management to biologists.

Our approach to forestry has also changed. The focus has tended to be on the number of trees planted to replace trees cut. The emphasis is now on all stages of forest production -- tree improvement, site preparation, regeneration, and tending. Planting trees, for instance, will not produce a forest if those young trees go into unprepared ground and are not tended carefully.

I have saved a major new ministry program until last -- because it's a program we are asking all forest user groups to take part in.

The ministry is embarking on a major public awareness program to dispel the misconceptions that have been repeated so often that they are now accepted as fact by many people.

We've begun by setting the record straight and making sure all major reports on forest management get wide distribution. That is why we released the Ontario provincial auditor's report on forest management, and the deputy minister's reply to the concerns raised in that report.

We also released the five-year reviews of the first FMAs that were signed, and have called for an independent audit of a report on the present and projected state of our province's forests. That report and the audit by one of Canada's most respected forestry specialists, Dean Gordon L. Baskerville of the University of New Brunswick, will also be made public.

We are releasing this information because the public has to know the facts to become involved in forest management decision-making. With that kind of involvement, we will get the support we need to ensure forests are managed properly and that industry prospers. And we will get the best possible decisions.

The Ontario government believes its policies serve your industry, the public interest and forest management well. I know we can count on your support to implement these policies. Let's both make sure we also have the public's understanding and support.



Ministry of Ministère des
Natural Richesses
Resources naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
ONTARIO FEDERATION OF ANGLERS AND HUNTERS

AT THE

SKYLINE HOTEL, TORONTO

FEBRUARY 21, 1986
9 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

As delivered by Mary Mogford, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Natural Resources

I'm going to begin my remarks by telling you about some of the adventures I've had in the outdoors.

I know you are interested in fishing and hunting stories. When I saw you had set aside a whole hour for my ministry, I was pleased. I've got all kinds of stories.

I can go back to days when I was a young rascal, fishing for black bass at Turkey Point and tagging along with my father on his trapline.

Or I can dip into my memories of fishing all over Canada -- God's Lake, the Pacific Coast, and any place you want to hear about in Ontario. This province has some of the best fishing anywhere, and I've sampled most of it.

But I've got other things I must discuss with you today. I'm going to tell you just one story. If you want to hear some more, catch me later.

This story is about a moose hunt, up north of Mattice, 15 miles back in the woods. Our guide was a trapper. So before we left on our hunt, he took us all around his trapline, snapping all the traps so that he could leave them.

We went out on cross-country skis that his grandfather had made by hand. This was an old-fashioned winter moose hunt. And we had the right guide. That man knew more about the bush and the animals in it than anyone I ever met before.

We stayed at his house, a real homestead out in the woods. He even had a trap door in the floor that led down to an underground spring. When he left that house in the winter, he put his vegetables down there so they wouldn't freeze.

When I came home from that hunt, I felt like I'd had one of the great experiences of my life. My point is that because I had gone moose hunting, I'd seen and done things that I might never have experienced otherwise.

I know that you people, as anglers and hunters, must feel the same way. Your lives are richer because you participate with nature. You are blessed with experiences that other people do not have.

I'm still a resource user. But since I've become Minister of Natural Resources, I've changed the way I think about our resources. Now I'm not just a resource user. I'm responsible for managing our natural resources.

I sometimes feel like a lottery winner in the middle of a family reunion. Everybody around me has at least two requests for help, and three serious concerns about how I should spend the money. I never knew I had so many close, personal friends interested in my welfare.

But your voice -- the voice of a true old friend -- comes through very clearly. You state your positions in well-presented briefs such as your recent messages on muskies and lake trout.

I listen to you. And there are a number of occasions when the MNR takes actions that you recommend. In the past year, for example, the new Hunter's Guide, an excellent book, was the product of our co-operation.

And there are times when our decisions don't completely coincide with your ideas. Last year, we listened to your recommendations on mandatory hunter orange. We compromised. While we didn't make hunter orange mandatory, we are working with you to promote the use of it. In addition, we carried out a field survey to determine the level of use of hunter orange by hunters. We also asked hunters what they thought about wearing hunter orange.

I'm sure there will be tough decisions to make in the future. There will be times when the compromises won't be so easy to find. But I'm not going to avoid those decisions. I don't hesitate to make decisions or take action.

In fact, I want to tell you right now about some decisions I've made and actions I've taken.

First, the resident fishing licence. I have recommended that Ontario have a resident fishing licence in 1987.

I know you have been strong advocates of a resident fishing licence. And it would have been a pleasure to announce it here. But I announced it last month so that we could get moving. And I was pleased to have Ken Lounsbury and Rick Morgan in the Legislature when I announced it.

You have a part to play in public consultation. This is not the time to put your feet up, lean back, and just wait for the licence you have asked for.

This is a time to redouble your efforts. Attend the public meetings. Talk to friends and neighbors -- educate people who may not know what's going on in fish and wildlife. These people may object to what they wrongly perceived as just another tax.

They may not realize that Ontario spends more than \$30-million a year to look after its fishery. That money is spent on habitat protection and rehabilitation, fish stocking, fisheries research, enforcement of fisheries regulations and co-operative programs such as the Community Fisheries Involvement Program.

They may not realize that a resident fishing licence could provide \$8- to \$12-million in additional funds for MNR's fisheries budget.

These funds will allow us to stock more fish -- to improve enforcement -- to hire two CFIP advisors -- to fund larger CFIP projects. It means we can remove dams that block fish from potential spawning grounds, we can undertake extensive fisheries research and conduct more public education on conservation.

With these funds, we're also proposing to set up a Fisheries Advisory Council, which would work with the ministry. This council would include people from across the province who represent various viewpoints on sport and commercial fishing. Your voice will be important in this forum. You would be helping to advise us on fisheries issues -- and you'd be making other user groups aware of your concerns.

So far, I've been pointing out what we can do with the financial gains from these angling licences. But there are other advantages too. For instance, they will also allow us to gear our fisheries programs to the needs of the angler. That's because licence sales will give us the names and addresses of anglers. We'll be able to contact them with surveys and questionnaires about what they want.

Improved fisheries will attract anglers, and lead to a better economic return for all of us -- including the hospitality industry, retailers and other business and service industries. Sport fishing contributes over \$700-million to the Ontario economy every year. If we enhance our fishery, it can contribute even more.

I am looking to the OFAH for continued support of a resident fishing licence. It's taken a long time for that opportunity to arise. Let's not miss it.

By the way, I have arranged for the OFAH executive to screen a preview of the resident angling licence slide show tonight. This is the same show we will be presenting at the open houses. We think it's good and I'm sure you will feel the same.

I'll have some other comments to make about fisheries later, but now I want to move on to the wetlands. Your President, Ken Lounsbury, has worked tirelessly on wetlands policy. And I know how important wetlands are to the OFAH.

As you know, the MNR has published government approved guidelines on wetlands, and circulated them to the municipalities. We have had a good response.

We have also finished the second year of a three-year program to identify and classify southern Ontario's wetlands.

Within 12 to 15 months, the government will publish a white paper on wetlands, and invite public response. Then we will be in a position to establish policy which will be implemented under the Planning Act.

Right now, a couple of things are obvious. One is that compensation to landowners is a key issue. The other is that we have already identified most of our important wetlands.

We don't have to wait until we have government policy before we start acting to preserve these wetlands. In fact, we have already started to inform wetland owners of the values of their land, and are putting this information into the hands of people responsible for planning land use.

My ministry will be setting aside a quarter of a million dollars. We will use that allocation to lever habitat improvement funds from other interested conservation organizations, namely Wildlife Habitat Canada, to greatly expand our ability to secure wetland wildlife habitat in Ontario. Ducks Unlimited Canada will be a full partner with us in other important much needed endeavors.

Here's how it will work. My ministry will select projects, emphasizing protection of class one and two wetlands and major waterfowl staging and production areas.

Then we will approach conservation organizations including the OFAH, Ducks Unlimited, and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. We will be looking for financial support to bring committed funding up to at least double the provincial commitment.

We will then ask Wildlife Habitat Canada to match those funds. Ontario waterfowlers support Habitat Canada when they purchase the habitat stamp required for migratory bird hunting. Nearly a third of all Habitat Canada's funds from that source comes from Ontario.

You can look forward to seeing things start to happen in our wetlands. We are making an investment in protecting them. And we have a strategy that will maximize the value of that commitment.

Now, let me move on to another key topic of interest to us all -- selective harvests. We've seen a lot of changes in the past few years in the way we hunt deer and moose.

In the case of deer, the results are obvious. Because of favorable winters and selective harvesting, deer numbers in most areas are at a higher level than they have been in decades.

The figures for the 1984 hunt show the harvest was the highest since 1965, and we had more deer hunters than we've had since 1967. That tells you something about how the selective harvest has improved things.

With the moose herd, we haven't turned the corner completely yet. And there is still debate about the selective harvest.

You in the OFAH have told us that the absence of any form of party hunting has not been acceptable to you.

Hunters do not want to retire from the hunt if they happen to get a moose on the first day. And it is an aggravation for those who hunt bear and moose to not be able to hunt bear after they have had a successful moose hunt.

You asked my ministry last year to consider permitting party hunting for calf moose. This proposal has advantages and disadvantages.

On the one hand, we have been under-harvesting calf moose. On the other hand, if party hunting for calves is allowed, would this encourage illegal party hunting for adult moose?

When we discussed this, my game managers pointed out that party hunting for adult moose would cause the success rate to go up. And we would have to adjust for that by reducing the number of adult permits available.

On the positive side, party hunting for calf moose would permit hunters to have the kind of hunt they regard as traditional. You go to the hunt in order to be with your friends, not to sit in camp.

I think the story I told you about moose hunting shows you that I know the total experience is important to the hunt. It is for this reason that I am pleased to announce today that party hunting for moose calves will be permitted, beginning in the fall of 1986.

I know there are many other topics important to you. These include management of black bear and nongame species, fisheries allocations and wild turkey. But I don't want to talk too long, so perhaps we could discuss those issues with the panel in a moment.

I'm going to conclude my own remarks by talking about some challenges for the coming year.

I like the way you respond to challenges. CFIP is a good example of that. A few years ago, it was just ideas and words. You helped to turn it into something remarkable. Whenever I visit CFIP projects, I'm always impressed with your enthusiasm and your dynamic approach.

We need that kind of participation to achieve our goals. I've already mentioned that the resident fishing licence needs your active support.

So does parks planning. We are getting down to specific plans for the new parks we are creating. You already know that more than 95 per cent of that parkland is open to traditional uses, including hunting.

That has given you a part to play in planning those parks. Jim Hook is your representative for Woodland Caribou Provincial Park in northwestern Ontario. You, as a Federation, must continue to find strong representatives like Jim, and support them well.

District fisheries management planning will be important to you in the coming year. My ministry is beginning with eight districts, one in each region. This process will help us work together to plan how our fisheries resources will be managed in the years ahead.

As anglers, it's in your own interest to participate fully in district fisheries management plans. You will have to speak for yourselves, and make certain the message gets through.

Now for the big item -- the Community Wildlife Involvement Program. CWIP is a new program, less than a year old. It's already off to a good start. And I'd like to see you devote your efforts to it in the coming year.

CWIP is designed to tackle some serious problems. It will improve wildlife habitat. It will help to foster a sense of stewardship toward our resources. And it will allow you as sportsmen to work closely with landowners and other user groups with a keen interest in our wildlife resources.

CWIP is people-oriented. The program provides funding for equipment and materials for approved projects. And there's advice available from ministry staff. But it's people who will make it work. And here today, I'm looking at the kind of people CWIP needs.

Over the next year, I'd like to see you get deeply involved in CWIP. And I'd like to see projects that go directly to the heart of the problem -- that start by tackling the habitat decline.

Here's an example of what you can do. Go to landowners and get them involved in habitat improvements. Think big -- try to organize a block of interested landowners along a concession. Get together with ministry staff and evaluate the habitat. Work up a plan for improving that wildlife habitat and get started on it. A manual of techniques will soon be available to help you do this.

The benefits will be obvious.

- You will have better habitat.
- You will have focused landowners' attention on the needs of the wildlife on their properties.
- And you, as sportsmen, will have established good, working relationships with those landowners.

That's what CWIP is all about. Getting involved in that program is one of the most important challenges you have in the coming year.

A year from now, I expect to be back at your conference. I know you'll be keeping a report card on me. Fair enough.

I'm going to be evaluating you at the same time. CWIP is at the top of my list. I've seen how you people get involved in things. I admire your enthusiasm. And I'm prepared to be surprised by what you can accomplish in CWIP.

It's been a pleasure to meet such an enjoyable group of outdoors people. I'm looking forward to meeting more of you later today.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

CAZON
NR REMARKS BY

- S77 JAMES MCGUIGAN
PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT TO THE
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

AGGREGATE PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO
ANNUAL MEETING

AT THE

WESTIN HOTEL
TORONTO, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 28, 1986
8:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good morning. It's a pleasure to be here today.

My staff tell me that a breakfast speech should be short and light. Otherwise, I'm told I might put my audience to sleep. With that advice in mind, I'll try to keep my remarks brief and to the point.

The Minister very much regrets that he could not be here today. Many of you may not know that Mr. Kerrio's involvement with the aggregate industry goes back a long way. Before entering politics, he ran a construction business in Niagara Falls. His father started the business, and today his son runs it.

Mr. Kerrio told me that not only is he familiar with the industry -- having used every kind of product that you produce -- but that he's dealt with a lot of people in this room, including your 1985 president Norris Walker.

Mr. Kerrio pointed out to me that his company has been buying aggregates for about 40 years now. They've bought tonnes of rip rap to stabilize the banks of the Welland Canal in Port Weller. They've used tremendous quantities of aggregates for road base and concrete.

Because of that background, Mr. Kerrio has a special recognition of the important role aggregate producers play in this province.

Last month, the Minister and other MNR staff had a very productive meeting with Norris Walker, Rob Cook, Norm Flemington and Ted Balfe. They talked about your industry's concerns -- and about how government can help.

I'd like to tell you about some of the things that were discussed at that meeting -- some of the things the ministry is doing to assist Ontario's aggregate producers.

I'm sure you'll all agree that probably the biggest challenge you face today is public acceptance. Unfortunately, the public doesn't fully understand or appreciate the aggregate industry. Mention pits and quarries to most people and all they think about is dust, noise and trucks.

They tend to think, "I don't use aggregates, so why should there be a pit or quarry in my community?" But of course, they do use aggregates. Not only that, the public depends on aggregates in ways they don't realize.

That's the message we've got to get across. We've got to find ways to make people aware of the importance of aggregates -- and the need for locating pits and quarries close to markets.

People should know how vital it is to have material as near the construction site as possible. They should know that the further you truck your products, the more expensive it is -- meaning higher costs for everyone.

But getting people to understand the importance of accessible pits and quarries, or the connection between aggregates and a new road or development isn't enough.

We've also got to continue to show the public that these pits and quarries can be well operated without adverse impacts on local residents. Then we have to return those sites to some other productive use through progressive rehabilitation. We have to assure the public that aggregate production doesn't have to mean an unsightly abandoned pit or quarry when the job is done.

Of course, rehabilitation isn't a new concept. Many aggregate producers have been undertaking excellent progressive rehabilitation for years.

I have had the opportunity to see many outstanding rehabilitation projects. And, being from the Niagara area, Mr. Kerrio has spoken about playing golf on the excellent Steed and Evans site in Fonthill.

With more efforts like these, I think we can gradually change the public perception of your industry.

The theme of today's meeting is "The Challenge of Change." I think the greatest challenge of change your industry and the ministry face together is what I've just been talking about -- improved rehabilitation. Rehabilitation that goes beyond berms and tree screens. I'm talking about real rehabilitation that truly reclaims the land for a productive post-extraction use.

Several months ago the ministry completed a rehabilitation cost study. A group of ministry field people undertook a detailed study of the different kinds of rehabilitation costs -- everything from berms and tree screens to sloping and floor work.

They found that, in most cases, the \$3,000 maximum security fee under the Pits and Quarries Control Act did not reflect the real costs of rehabilitation. Average floor rehabilitation costs were found to be around \$6,000 per hectare.

Therefore, through discussions with your executive, it has been decided that the maximum security fee should be increased to \$6,000 per hectare to reflect more closely the real costs of rehabilitation. It is also proposed that any excess security over \$6,000 will be refunded to operators once a year. This is something that your organization has requested, and that the ministry agreed to. These changes are in the final process of approval by government.

With this revision comes changes to the way in which the ministry will process rehabilitation claims. I believe Dale Scott may have discussed these matters with you in greater detail yesterday.

These revisions will enable your industry to place more emphasis on total rehabilitation -- rather than cosmetic improvements like berms and tree screens.

Progressive and visible rehabilitation is one key to ensuring public and municipal acceptance of your operations and, therefore, a healthy future for your industry.

Another key to reassuring the public and local government is the proposed Aggregates Act. Mr. Kerrio anticipates that this act will be introduced in the Legislature before the end of the year.

Ministry staff are currently making minor revisions to the latest draft of the Bill, to accommodate changes in responsibilities due to the recent transfer of many mines functions from Natural Resources to the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines.

As you know, many municipalities are very supportive of the proposed Aggregates Act, especially the proposed financial renumeration.

I know some of you are concerned about this matter. However, Mr. Kerrio is convinced that the Act's greater emphasis on good operating practices and progressive rehabilitation will improve relations between your industry, municipalities and the public.

In revising the Aggregates Act we are taking into consideration your concerns related to various municipal operating restrictions and financial requirements.

All in all, it should be a big improvement over the present Pits and Quarries Control Act.

I know you are also interested in hearing the latest news on the Foodland Preservation Policy Statement. As you know, this is currently out for public comment.

The ministry is studying this statement, and will be preparing a response. Mr. Kerrio recognizes your valid concerns about the need to extract below the water table in some localities without being able to return the site to agriculture.

I should add that he is also very much aware of your concerns regarding assessment increases and inconsistencies. Ministry staff have discussed this issue with your executive, and are currently investigating the situation.

As for the Mineral Aggregate Resource Planning Policy, or MARP -- which has been Cabinet-approved policy since December 1982 -- we expect it will be formally adopted under the Planning Act in the near future.

The ministry has also been busy on the research side of things. For many years the ministry has produced reports on pit and quarry rehabilitation and other matters of interest to the aggregate industry.

Over the past year, a publication on fruitland rehabilitation was released and a booklet on the rehabilitation of sites for fish and wildlife will soon be published.

Mr. Kerrio is proud of the work the ministry has been doing to further your interests.

Initiatives like the proposed Aggregates Act, MARP, revisions to the rehabilitation security system and rehabilitation studies, are helping you secure and strengthen your role in this province.

Of course, none of these efforts would be possible without your co-operation. The ministry and the APAO have enjoyed a good working relationship for many years.

It is extremely helpful that the APAO executive meets with ministry staff at least twice a year to discuss mutual concerns. I trust we can continue this close and productive working relationship. And I know the Minister would invite you to call on him directly if he can be of any assistance.

Before I finish, I want to stress one thing -- the Ministry of Natural Resources understands the vital role of your industry in Ontario and your needs and concerns. At MNR we know what you're up against.

And I know I speak for the Minister when I say that together we make a pretty good team. Together I think we will find ways to meet the Challenge of Change.



Ministry of Ministère des
Natural Richesses
Resources naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

AT THE

PRINCE HOTEL
TORONTO, ONTARIO

MARCH 7, 1986
1 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



I am delighted to have the opportunity to talk to you today. We have a great deal in common, both in terms of the business we are in, and how we perceive the raw materials from which we create works of function and form.

I was once a businessman, as many of you are now, and I am proud of the projects I was involved in. Before I entered politics I was a mechanical contractor. One of my favorite ventures was building the Maid of the Mist in Niagara Falls.

Recently I was reminded of that experience when I visited the North Bay waterfront project which Moore-George Associates is working on. I was greatly impressed by Rick Moore's enthusiasm for the waterfront design.

As you may know, the province is putting more than \$4-million into this project. As Minister of Natural Resources, I am pleased that the concept of landscape design is an important aspect of this development.

As I said, we have a great deal in common. At the Ministry of Natural Resources, we approach resource management thoughtfully, with consideration for both human and environmental needs, and with awareness of the long-term effects of our decisions.

We strive to strike a balance between the protection of the land's assets, and the human demand to use them.

Just as landscape architects will study a site from every angle, so too MNR must appraise the likely effects of every project on the surrounding environment.

The difference is that my Ministry is responsible for managing the resources of a much larger land mass, one equal in size to Western Europe.

How do we come to grips with the competition for those resources? How can we possibly satisfy the weekend angler and the commercial fisherman; the hunter who stalks with a gun and the hunter who shoots through a camera lens?

We have to understand how each of their needs fits into the big picture. And we have to plan for all of them -- not only for today, but with an eye to the future generations who must live with the consequences of today's decisions.

That is why I was pleased to hear that the topic for your seminar earlier today was "Illusions in the Landscape".

As Minister of Natural Resources, I have come to appreciate that many of the popular assumptions about our natural resources are indeed illusory.

For many years, Ontarians labored under the illusion that we have endless, boundless, ubiquitous resources.

That illusion was shattered when we realized that our resources are finite. But while our resources are finite, many are renewable. They are limited only by our ability to manage them wisely. This means we have to replace -- and even improve on -- what we use. And what we do use, must give the maximum benefit to the largest possible number of people.

We call this concept "Integrated Resource Management", and at the Ministry of Natural Resources we feel strongly about it; it is our primary corporate philosophy.

You understand this type of planning; you use this philosophy all the time. In fact, one of your members, Hough Stansbury, is now working with my Ministry in consultation with forestry associations. They are developing guidelines in forest management that will at the same time protect tourism values. That's Integrated Resource Management.

This style of resource management -- which you, as environmental designers, practise as a matter of course -- has undergone a steady evolution in my Ministry. In the early 1970s, traditional resource industry activities were expanding. At the same time, there was an increased demand for high quality outdoor recreational opportunities. Competition for our resources intensified.

My Ministry recognized that the first-come, first-served approach to resource allocation just wouldn't work anymore. What was needed was a flexible strategy of compromise and informed decision-making.

So ministry staff embarked on a campaign of consultation with the public, with interest groups and with other ministries to create a framework of reference for land use planning. The result was the District Land Use Guidelines.

The guidelines' objectives included a complete inventory of provincial resources and their potential. They also provided a means of testing the value of reaching specific resource management targets, and reconciling conflicting targets.

The philosophy of Integrated Resource Management evolved naturally from the District Land Use Guidelines. People realized you couldn't plan for one resource in isolation. Each resource is part of a vast chain, and has to be examined in relation to the whole.

For example, when we draft plans for managing a forest, we don't think in terms of just so many cords of wood. We talk to biologists, fisheries experts, wildlife authorities, soil and erosion control experts.

We try to predict what effect our management plans will have on the animals, birds, fish, plants, land and people that are part of that forest's makeup. You could call it a holistic approach.

I know you work closely with the conservation authorities of this province so let me give you this Ministry's view of how Integrated Resource Management is applied to their area of experience:

The primary responsibility of conservation authorities is the control of flooding and erosion in areas where these pose a hazard to life and property.

Protective works -- be they dikes, berms, revetments or plantings to stabilize the soil -- can serve a second function when Integrated Resource Management is applied. The lands acquired for their construction can double as near-urban recreational areas. The demand is there -- 97 per cent of Ontarians live in urban areas.

One need only look at downtown Cambridge for a good example of Integrated Resource Management in practice. After the flooding of 1974, my Ministry, in co-operation with the Grand River Conservation Authority, has put a total of \$10.5-million into protective works on the Grand River flowing through the downtown area.

Downtown Cambridge today has one of the most attractive recreational areas in Ontario, right in the heart of the business core.

Similarly, Integrated Resource Management can be applied to smaller projects with equally gratifying results. Look at the way in which planting a pine plantation can serve a number of needs, right from the first days.

First, there's the purely practical function of controlling soil erosion on a slope.

Second, as the trees mature, they give esthetic and recreational benefits to the community. They also provide food and shelter for wildlife.

And eventually, that timber will be harvested for economic gain.

So we have satisfied several needs throughout the life cycle of this plantation: we have met practical, esthetic, recreational and economic goals.

And because this is a renewable resource, the cycle can begin again.

Another area of mutual concern is the rehabilitation of aggregate-producing lands. Bill Coates is probably one of your industry's most knowledgeable experts in site plans for the operation and rehabilitation of pits and quarries.

The rehabilitation of these lands has been of particular concern to MNR for some time. As you know, aggregate producers pay a security deposit to the Ministry -- up to \$3,000 per hectare -- which is returned to the producer when rehabilitation is complete.

The cost of rehabilitation is some cases is more than the deposit. So some producers have not been encouraged to progressively rehabilitate the land.

We are in the final approval stages of doubling the security deposit to a maximum of \$6,000 per hectare of land that requires rehabilitation.

We believe increasing that maximum will be the needed financial incentive to encourage more and better rehabilitation.

Aggregate pits can be rehabilitated with spectacular results. They've been given a new lease on life as parks, golf courses -- and even as orchards.

The key is to plan for this rehabilitation even before the first trucks carry the product from the site.

This is another example of Integrated Resource Management.

Projects like these could become the bread and butter of your industry. Landscape architects are also on the front line of planning and developing the outdoor recreation areas that are becoming increasingly popular in a highly urban society.

I've mentioned the multiple functions of conservation areas. I'd like to touch on our provincial parks. Landscape architects are often closely involved in the planning of new provincial parks, and MNR has a high regard for your profession in this capacity.

Provincial parks naturally complement the conservation authorities and their near-urban recreation areas. This can be seen in the case of the Niagara Escarpment Parks System, where some parks are provincial parks, and others are conservation areas managed by the authorities.

Let me tell you what's happening with the Niagara Escarpment parks.

My Ministry is co-ordinating the Niagara Escarpment Land Acquisition Program. Its purpose is to acquire land along the Escarpment which will complete those 55 parks that require additions to the land base.

Eventually there will be a chain of 105 provincial parks and conservation areas stretching from Fonthill to the northern tip of the Bruce Peninsula.

This is a long-term project -- I hope to see it completed in my lifetime. When all 105 parks are in place, our children and their children will be assured of the preservation of the beauty and historical significance of the Escarpment.

Practising Integrated Resource Management in provincial parks poses a particular challenge for my Ministry. Some people would prefer to see provincial parks preserved like statues carved in stone. And we do have parks like that -- the nature reserves.

However, we also have a duty to provide a variety of park experiences. We must strike a balance between protecting the land, and providing opportunities for recreation, tourism, and appreciation of our heritage.

In some instances, we have struck a compromise between our role as protectors of the parks, and our duty to manage park resources in an integrated way so that people can enjoy them.

These decisions are not made lightly or behind closed doors. Every park is administered under a park management plan which sets out 20-year goals for that park. We consider public input to be a vital part of that planning.

And we've found that, given the proper public forum, groups with opposing ideas can themselves reach equitable solutions.

Hough Stansbury is playing an important role in public consultation at Woodland-Caribou provincial park. They are meeting with special interest groups and getting their opinions on managing the park. By consulting with the public and resolving conflicts, they are helping us in drafting a park management plan for this park.

Planning for provincial parks is often a long-term job, one that requires vision. In 1893, the need for Algonquin Park must have seemed sheer folly to Ontarians, considering only two million people lived in the province.

Now, as then, we look to the future. For some years, my Ministry has been working to expand the provincial parks system. In 1983 we announced our intention to double the parks system.

At that time, there were 138 provincial parks. We identified 155 potential parks. In the past two years, we have regulated 104 of those parks and we intend to regulate the remainder.

These new parks range in size from Wilkie Lake nature reserve, only one hectare in size, to Opasquia wilderness park which has more than 460,000 hectares.

In creating these parks now, we are simply setting land aside and protecting it. Some will be developed as traditional recreational parks. But in keeping with our duty to provide a variety of experiences, other parks may be designated as nature reserves, wilderness parks, waterways, or historical sites.

The Integrated Resource Management concept relies heavily on public input and information-sharing between all interested parties.

Through public discussions, all who will be affected by the development of the park have a chance to air their opinions. Conflicts can be resolved and an atmosphere of sharing is established right from the beginning.

But before we can plan the future of any land area, we need to know what's already there.

That is why my Ministry is moving toward a major improvement to its data base by computerizing Ontario base maps. I anticipate this technology will be available to you and other land use planners as it develops.

Since 1983 we have tested this technology and are very optimistic that we will be able to establish a digital topographic data base for the province.

We hope to begin a two-year provincewide production testing and market research program. One-third of Ontario has already been mapped by hand so we have a good head-start in this effort.

This new technology means the end of using transparent overlays in order to determine separately the slope, terrain, cultural features, geology, drainage, and streets of any area. You would be able to call up any combination of themes by computer in order to plan your design.

It also means the establishment of one, standard grid and data base. Users won't have to duplicate the base data for their individual computer mapping systems.

This long-term project is being proposed for several reasons.

Most importantly, it will assist Ontario in the transition from an industrially-based society to one based on information sharing and producing.

And it is in keeping with this Ministry's support of decentralized government, because computerization will allow for a dispersed network of users.

And it is a logical development in the Integrated Resource Management of this province's assets.

This project will revolutionize your research. We see planning -- including utilization and design of the landscape -- as a cornerstone of managing our land resources.

I believe that the tool of computerized mapping represents a quantum leap into the high-tech age.

One hundred years ago, the integrated approach to resource management was foreseen by landscape and environmental architects. Landscape architects like Frederick Law Olmsted were ahead of their time. In their era, they were considered crackpots. The illusion of boundless resources was still with us.

Times have changed. You have played a large role in dispelling our old illusions -- and replacing them with a new vision.

Now we realize that we must recycle our renewable resources.

Now we understand that we must manage what we have wisely.

Now we appreciate that exclusive use of a resource cannot be justified.

These are the beliefs that you and I have in common.

Many people still cling to the old illusions about the landscape. You and I must deal with reality. I know that we can work together to enhance our landscape and bring it to new heights of usefulness, beauty, and productivity.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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OPENING REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

CANADIAN FORESTRY FORUM
ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT

AT THE

METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE

MARCH 12, 1986
8:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Thank you, Mr. Koken.

On behalf of the provincial government -- and thousands of people who depend on our forest industry -- welcome to Ontario -- and to Toronto.

It's sometimes hard to convince people in a city like Toronto that Ontario is a forestry province. In fact, right here in southern Ontario there are more people employed directly and indirectly in forest products manufacturing than there are in northern Ontario.

Ontario is just one of the many areas of Canada where there is a dependence on forests. And that's why we are depending on people like yourselves. Sessions like this are unique and important. They bring together an ideal mix of people with the expertise and the knowledge to advise politicians like myself.

I would like to suggest that while the topic for the next two days may be trade and investment, the results of your deliberations will go far beyond industry successes and increased profits.

More players, increased competition worldwide and new products have changed the nature of the marketplace. Our job now at this forum is to come to some agreement about what we should do -- together.

We face some serious challenges in the marketplace, some caused by currency fluctuations. We face protectionist initiatives in the U.S. These challenges dictate a need for continued close co-operation between governments and industry, and increased information sharing.

Making the right investment decisions is also crucial. Governments and industry must get the best return on the limited resources they have to invest. We, therefore, have to know where we are going, and we have to stick to our plans.

We have to continuously invest in new technology to remain competitive -- even though it involves spending money and adapting to something new.

If we don't keep up, we will fall disastrously behind in the long run. We will not be able to offer the products that are in demand at prices that are competitive.

But I have great faith in Canadian businesspeople. I used to be one. I know we can "stretch" ourselves. I know we can remain competitive.

We can stay on top of new technology. Dan Alexander of St. Mary's Paper wasn't afraid of change. That's why many of us are getting advertising supplements printed on Dan's super-calendered paper in the middle of our daily newspapers. You know the ones. You pick up the paper and these things immediately slip out and fall all over the floor. That's because the paper is so smooth. But it's just newsprint. Dan, I bend over a lot to pick up your paper -- but it looks great. Congratulations.

We can make wise investments in other areas.

You've heard the saying, "Canadians -- great innovators, lousy marketers." There may be a grain of truth in that. But if there is, we can change it. We have a mill in Kakabeka Falls that is selling wood panelling to 22 states, and is ready to make a move on Japan and Western Europe. The reason is simple: The owner is hardly ever in his office -- he's out knocking on doors.

That's good marketing. I could also mention the B.C. forest products industries that got together and came up with a good marketing package 15 years ago. It was so good, they convinced the provincial and federal governments to share equally in the cost. That became the Co-operative Overseas Market Development Program. Mike Apsey, who is also here today, could be considered the father of that program.

We have to consider all types of investment -- investment in people, in technology, in time, in forest management, and in research. There is always room for improvement in all these areas -- even though many companies are laboring under heavy debt loads that limit what they would really like to do.

We also have to take into account that the rules in forest management have changed, and will continue to change. Forests serve many important uses and many users.

Tourism, fish and wildlife, recreation and environmental concerns have to be addressed. At the same time, governments must ensure that adequate economic raw material is available well into the next century.

These other uses of our forests could be regarded as interference by some. They shouldn't be. I believe if there is criticism of legitimate, well-planned timber management activities, it is evidence that we can improve public involvement and public awareness.

I don't think we've really begun to tap the potential support for industry that could come from the majority of Canadians who are intelligent and practical.

These people know you don't get toilet paper, wooden furniture and newsprint unless you cut some trees. They have no problem with that. They just want to know that it's being done wisely, with proper regard for other values. We have to prove to them that we are accomplishing this.

I am confident that we can get the support and help of this majority. All we have to do is tell them the facts -- including the challenges and opportunities Canada faces regarding trade and investment.

It seems to me that this forum is a challenging quest for advantages -- big and small -- to ensure Canadian forest industries remain strong.

We know there are trade opportunities. We know cost reductions and productivity gains are possible. And we know we can get a better fix on the products that will be in demand tomorrow.

We also know there are tough questions we have to answer: Are we committed to grabbing the opportunities we have or creating new ones? What's the proper role of government in the investment process? Are we ready to establish and stick to a long-range industrial development policy? How do we handle large capital requirements needed for forest management, plant modernization and product research?

In the next few days, you will recommend approaches to questions like these. Your recommendations -- and the recommendations of the previous forums -- will be on the table at the National Forest Congress in April for consideration by decision-makers -- from both government and industry.

We must all realize the importance of this forum, because -- together -- what we are really doing here in these forums is helping establish national forestry -- and perhaps forest industry -- policies that must serve Canada for years to come.



Ministry of Ministère des
Natural Richesses
Resources naturelles

CAZON CLOSING REMARKS BY

NR
577

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

CANADIAN FORESTRY FORUM
ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT

METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE

MARCH 13, 1986
11:45 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

You know, I can't help feeling a bit sad that this forestry forum is drawing to a close. For me, this has been a very valuable two days -- and a unique meeting of minds.

You people are among those best qualified to tackle the trade and investment challenges and opportunities in Canada's forest industry of the future.

This exposure to the thoughts and opinions of leading industry and financial people has been tremendously valuable. Forums like this are especially important because it allows us, as politicians, to tap into the talents of such a wide ranging and knowledgeable group of delegates.

What has been especially interesting for me is the contribution of those of you from financial consulting firms who deal every day with not only the forest products industry, but many industrial sectors.

We value your hard-nosed, objective approach, your knowledge of many markets and trends. Some of us, you see, are tempted to get a little subjective about forest resources from time to time. It's nice to have somebody standing by with a pail of cold water when we go a little overboard with optimism -- or a pick-me-up when the discussion gets gloomy.

This has been an excellent forum. I'm sure we all have a better appreciation of some very difficult areas. For one thing, I think we have a better understanding of the enormity of the tasks ahead of us.

Those of us who regularly make major decisions about forest management know how important those resources are to the people in our provinces. If you're like me, I'm sure you often feel like you're part of a very small chorus.

I can assure you that attending a forum like this is like returning to the well for a reassuring drink.

The politicians among this group, you know, often have a hard time convincing people that we have these wonderful resources called forests that can do so much for all of us.

What we are often up against is a widespread belief held by many that forests are somehow a thing of our past, a pioneer endeavor, a sunset industry -- especially when compared to the wonderful world of microchips.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The harvesting of a forest, and moving it to the mill, involves a multitude of experts these days -- from geneticists to land use planners. Then it really gets complicated. Those logs are being used to produce everything from prefabricated homes to the flavoring in mouth wash -- not to mention the traditional products like two-by-fours and newsprint. The labor and skills required to do this are phenomenal.

Realizing all this can be a real eye-opener for people outside forestry circles whose vision of our business is still linked to tales of lumberjacks and river drives.

I mention all this just to make a comparison. I think this forum has also been an eye-opener. I think we all came here knowing that the market for forest products and the investment picture has changed. But how many of us really understood the implications of these changes, the seriousness of the challenges or the complexities involved?

I think we all have a better understanding after two days of valuable interchange.

I think we know that we can produce the forest products of tomorrow, but that we have to change our "style" -- for want of a better word. We can't afford to be as easygoing as we have about what the world will need and what new clients will demand.

I think we have a better fix on what future markets will be like, on the competition from new producers, on the improvements in processing that are creating dozens of new products and on the importance of becoming leaders in innovation.

I think we also realize how important it is to co-operate nationwide so we can share technical information and respond effectively to arguments that Canadian producers somehow have an unfair trade advantage. As you know, Canadian export of softwood lumber to the USA was the subject of a senior officials' meeting in Washington yesterday.

Personally, the thing I have been most impressed by at this forum is the spirit of co-operation which each one of you brought here, along with your individual talents.

I, would like to see that the results of these two days of deliberations go well beyond these four walls. I plan to help all delegates here spread the word.

I will inform all my Cabinet colleagues about the proceedings here, your recommendations and the directions you have outlined.

I will also discuss your recommendations formally and informally with industry officials and others within the province.

In my view, forums like this have been long overdue and I applauded the idea of these get-togethers when it was first advanced at the meeting of federal and provincial ministers in Victoria last September.

The recommendations that have come out of this forum and the three forums since the Victoria meeting will be valuable food for thought at the upcoming forestry congress next month.

But I don't want our good works to stop there.

More than ever, I am convinced all of us have to work hard to inform ordinary Canadians about the real options we have, the kinds of programs we need and what challenges we face in the future.

The public has to be made aware of and invited to join with us in moving toward the goals you have recommended.

We have made a great start. I look forward to seeing many of you in Ottawa next month at the CFA National Forest Congress to continue our good work.



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- 577 .REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

NIAGARA ESCARPMENT PRESENTATION AND LUNCH

AT

NORTH HALTON GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
GEORGETOWN, ONTARIO

APRIL 3, 1986
12:30 P.M.



CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

First of all, I would like to say it is a pleasure to be here this afternoon.

Today we are doing more than marking the start of an important phase of park development in my area of responsibility as Minister of Natural Resources. We are continuing a commitment to parkland preservation started in this province a century ago.

In 1885, the provincial leaders of the day recognized that without government intervention, our magnificent falls and the surrounding lands and waterways would fall victim to massive over-development.

It took \$435,000 -- one fifth of the province's annual budget -- to acquire the property. Today, Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park lies within the boundaries of the City of Niagara Falls.

That park was just the start. In 1927, several historic sites associated with the War of 1812 were designated. Now there are 105 provincial parks along the Escarpment.

These parks provide year-round recreational opportunities, as well as protecting the environment for future generations.

This striking landscape, which stretches 725 kilometres from Queenston on the Niagara River north to the islands off Tobermory on the Bruce Peninsula, has always been popular. But it's more than just a beauty spot.

In fact, because of its temperate climate and the abundance of fish and game, the Niagara Escarpment was one of the first areas of the province to be inhabited. Traces of early native settlements, such as the 16th century village at Crawford Lake in Halton, have been unearthed and preserved as a monument to our early people.

Two centuries later, Celtic pioneers came to Bruce County. Those pioneers were followed by the United Empire Loyalists. And we all realize the benefits brought to the region by more recent settlers -- such as the Kerrios.

The Niagara area quickly became the market garden of the province, but explorers soon discovered other resources beneath the soil. Today, the Escarpment is the site of a large mineral aggregate extractive industry, the industry I went to work in with my late father, who started his company in 1921.

It was through our construction contracts that I gained valuable first-hand knowledge of the type of work needed to preserve both land and waterways.

From my experiences, I know we're lucky that far-sighted planners recognized the need to mix urban growth with agriculture, to permit mineral resource development while, at the same time, preserving parklands. My ministry supports the position established in the plan, where some extraction of aggregate resources on the Escarpment may occur as long as their removal in no way compromises the natural features of the area.

Maintaining a balance between the uses of our resources is a complicated process. It requires a lot of thought, and a great deal of co-operation.

And co-operation, by the way, is what brings us all here today.

Not only has the Escarpment plan involved the co-operation of several ministries. Seven conservation authorities manage their own systems of parks. And there is also a great deal of work being done by the Niagara Parks Commission, Parks Canada and the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority.

I'd also like to pay special tribute to the co-operation of the counties, cities, towns and townships and private citizens who helped establish, maintain and promote the Bruce Trail. This marvellous route, which winds its way through urban centres, farmlands and forests, provides an important linkup between the parks we are establishing.

Our provincial parks, which are located at strategic points along the Escarpment, will play a special role in educating visitors about the area.

This brings me to the most important message of today -- how we will be fulfilling our government's commitment to completing the Escarpment parks system.

Almost 34,000 hectares of land has been purchased since the 1960s by the province and other agencies. Some land has also been acquired through generous donations by owners.

Well, those 34,000 hectares represent 87 per cent of our goal. In fact, we need only 6,100 hectares more. Most of the land remaining is the property of about 700 private landowners.

Now, despite what you may have heard, I want to give you this assurance. No one will be forced to give up their land. We will not expropriate land for these parks.

Here's the plan. The Ministry of Government Services and several local conservation authorities will negotiate with the owners to buy the necessary properties at a price based on fair market value.

If an owner doesn't want to discuss selling, that's the end of it. It's as simple as that.

Properties which are suitable for acquisition will be included on a regularly updated list established and maintained by my ministry's staff, in consultation with other park agencies and the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

Anyone can review a copy of the list at any of my ministry's offices along the Escarpment, at local conservation authority offices or offices of the Niagara Escarpment Commission.

I am pleased to say that we are off to a good start. Six properties have been acquired. And our very first acquisition -- 15 hectares of land to add to the Dundas Valley Conservation area near Hamilton -- was actually donated to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority by its owners.

It was a generous gift, and one we were pleased to accept. And, of course, all donations are tax deductible.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation, which I've just mentioned, will play an important role in this land acquisition plan. They are the bankers.

Foundation officers are the ones who today will receive the first of 10 annual instalments designed to help us fulfil our government's commitment.

As you know, it takes money to make dreams work. And we have committed \$25-million to acquire the parkland we need. Here's how it will be used.

Every year for the next 10 years, \$2-million will be designated to acquire the necessary properties. Another half-million-dollars will be used annually by the Foundation for research into cultural properties, promotion, and the erection of cairns.

It's important for us to appreciate the work which has already been done to preserve the best that our Escarpment has to offer. It is also important to plan for the preservation of this resource for future generations.

That's why the release today of the Niagara Escarpment Plan gives the government an opportunity to make a very positive statement about our commitment to preserve the natural resources which lie within its boundaries. We are committed to it. You are committed to it. Together, we can make it work.



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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

ONTARIO LUMBER MANUFACTURER'S ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONVENTION

AT THE

ROYAL YORK HOTEL
TORONTO

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 1986
8:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good morning -- and thanks for this opportunity. This is the first time an Ontario Liberal Cabinet Minister has ever had the honor of addressing this group.

And it is an honor. This is one of the most important forest resources groups in Ontario -- and Canada. Ontario governments have always looked to the provincial lumbermen for advice and good counsel.

That process -- if you go back in the history books -- began in the late 1800s. Ontario lumbermen formed their first association because the inexperienced new government of Upper Canada was increasing fees and tightening regulations. Apparently the government needed more tax money to build the first good roads and schools.

The lumbermen got together. They began meeting regularly and consulting with government officials. And a very nice thing began to happen. Both groups realized they needed to work together -- for the good of the industry, society, the forests and the economy.

Ontario lumbermen and the government have been working together ever since. Today, we accomplish a lot together, and I, for one, want to see that partnership continue.

And as your partner, let me be the first to tell you how delighted the government is to see the market going your way.

In early February, lumber prices began to take off. Since then, softwood lumber prices have gone up about 15 per cent.

Random length #2 and better grades are selling wholesale in Toronto for more than \$320 a thousand board feet, eight-foot studs are more than \$300 and utility two-by-fours are bumping \$270.

And to top it off, I understand that annual housing starts in the U.S. increased to over two million in January. That's a good start to the new year.

There is, however, one cloud on the horizon. That's the protectionist tide against the high level of Canadian exports of softwood lumber that's running strong south of the border.

We have met with U.S. officials a number of times, we have outlined our facts and figures and we have compared them to the U.S. situation. We considered all things -- road costs, transportation, seasonal difficulties, resource proximity to mills and all the other factors. When you do that, it becomes obvious there is not much difference in the price of raw material when it reaches the mill door in both jurisdictions.

It becomes clear that the current situation is in large part influenced by the differences in our currencies. The 72 cent Canadian dollar has given us an advantage.

This has not escaped the notice of other U.S. groups, however. I can tell you we have a lot of support for the Canadian position within the United States.

Some of these allies have read the study by Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates. That study indicates that the price of an average new house in the U.S. would increase substantially if Canadian lumber imports were cut back. This would affect sales, housing starts and employment in the construction trades.

That's what we've been telling U.S. industry people -- and many of them are beginning to understand.

That is one example of what the Ontario government is doing to help provincial sawmillers.

We also took part in four very important national forestry forums. In the past half-year, provincial and federal forestry ministers and experts from the private sector have been tackling questions like protectionism at these forums. We've taken some very hard looks at the state of our forest resources, the international market, labor issues, environmental issues and the opportunities and challenges we face.

The recommendations from those forums will go directly to the National Forest Congress in Ottawa next week. And, we will move to establish the national strategies we need to improve forest management and meet world competition.

Our deliberations at these national forums indicated in no uncertain terms that Canadian forest products manufacturers have to stay on top in technology. We also have to master the intricacies of effective marketing.

I will inform my Cabinet colleagues about those recommendations, and I will also discuss those recommendations with industry people here in Ontario in the coming months.

In the meantime, my ministry will move ahead with several initiatives that we trust will benefit your industry in the future.

For one thing, my ministry will establish a public awareness program to correct some misconceptions about our forests, and our forest industry .

For example, many people have mistakenly accepted the notion that Ontario is suffering from a general lack of wood.

We know it is not. In all four of our northern regions, there is an excess of softwood in the 100-year plus classes. Much of it, unfortunately, is not economically accessible, given today's product markets.

Across the province, there is a large inventory of even-aged stands that have reached or surpassed rotation age at the same time, for a variety of reasons.

As a result, for the next 20 to 40 years, Ontario's policy will be to utilize as many of these stands as possible. We will also direct these surpluses, whenever possible, to facilities such as sawmills and others that already exist, but are not being fully utilized.

By doing this, we are supporting the lumber industry -- and, at the same time, improving our forests. We will continue to steer this extra wood your way for what we believe will be many years to come.

This will help us make good use of surplus mature and overmature stands. But there may also be younger stands closer to markets that will have to be cut as part of another policy the ministry is beginning to implement.

That policy is the prime sites approach to forest management. Prime forest sites are those which provide the best combination of fast growth, increased volumes, proximity to mills, and access to nearby road systems.

What we are doing now is injecting more economics into our forest production program. We will identify our prime sites, then put our best effort into them.

We have already begun to identify these sites in northeastern Ontario. Wherever possible, we will be harvesting mature stands on these sites and replanting with commercially valuable species that will be managed intensively.

This policy of not waiting, of engineering the new forest by converting the stands on prime sites, will also provide raw material for your industry.

But prime sites are not the only way we plan to improve forests and increase production. We will use improved seed and seedlings. By 1995, we will be planting only genetically improved black spruce and jack pine on prime sites. By the year 2000, every white spruce and white pine seedling used to regenerate a cutover will also be from genetically superior stock.

Productive sites can increase wood volumes -- but only to a point. Genetic gains can take you far beyond that -- to initial volume increases of between 10 and 15 per cent.

The government has changed its approach to forest management. The focus has tended to be on the number of trees planted to replace trees cut. But we all know that's just one stage in the process. The emphasis now is on all stages of forest production -- tree improvement, site preparation, regeneration, and tending.

The ministry is also pleased with the results of the initial review of the first Forest Management Agreements that began in 1980. Compared to work done on the same sites in the previous five years, industry made significant increases in regeneration and tending.

More than half the licenced area in the province is under FMAs. In time, approximately 70 per cent will be under FMAs.

While FMAs have provided us with a new and valuable means of forest management, MNR is still the agency that is ultimately responsible. But because companies are taking over the on-site work -- and doing a good job -- MNR foresters can now devote more time to long range planning, market analyses and quality control.

We now have the time to plan the kind of forests you will need to compete in the international market in the future.

I'm also pleased that three sawmillers are part of the FMA program. The ministry believes there are other sawmilling companies that will be able to take on agreements and the major responsibility for most forest management activities.

All this has not escaped the notice of the financial community. Financial institutions are impressed by the fact you can get guaranteed, long-term access to raw material through agreements -- if all the conditions are satisfied.

I think you can see right away what the financial impact of FMAs could have on the long-term financing of companies.

I have just described a number of steps we are taking to improve forest management -- and at the same time -- support industries like yours well into the 21st century.

Let me just re-emphasize one of those initiatives -- the public awareness program to dispel the misconceptions.

You can't achieve broad goals without the support of the public. And the key to getting that support is keeping people accurately informed.

That's something everyone in forestry circles can take part in -- must take part in. There are just too many misconceptions floating around out there -- and they are hindering everyone.

We are going to set the record straight. We are making sure all major reports on forest management get wide distribution. That is why we released the Ontario provincial auditor's report on forest management, and my Deputy Minister's reply to the concerns raised in that report.

We also released the five-year reviews of the first FMAs that were signed, and have initiated an independent audit of the present and projected state of our province's forests. That report by Dean Gordon L. Baskerville of the University of New Brunswick will also be made public.

We are releasing this information because the public has to know the facts to become involved in forest management decision-making. With that kind of involvement, we will get the support we need to ensure forests are managed properly and that industry prospers.

We have to make sure we keep that accurate data flowing, and tell everyone we can that one of the biggest misconceptions around today is that the forest products industry is a sunset industry.

I talked earlier about our partnership. We must never forget there is a third partner involved in everything we do -- the Ontario public.

The Ontario government believes its policies serve your industry, the public interest and forest management well. I know we can count on your support to implement these policies. Let's both make sure we also have the public's understanding and support.



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REMARKS BY - 577

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

IZAAK WALTON FLY FISHERMAN'S CLUB
FLY FISHING FORUM

AT THE

SKYLINE HOTEL
TORONTO

APRIL 12, 1986
7:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good morning. I am pleased to see so many of you here at this early hour. It's a pleasure to be here, among friends with whom I have so much in common. In fact, an affinity for the rod and reel is practically a hereditary trait in my family. My father was an avid fly-tyer and fisherman, and the two split bamboo fly rods I inherited are treasured possessions.

I also had an opportunity to see some great fly-tying demonstrations by this club at the Toronto Sportsmen's Show. Anyone here who is planning to attend the fly-tying workshops this weekend is in for a treat.

It's a great pleasure to speak to a group that supports its philosophy in a practical way, by generously donating its money and manpower to the cause.

I am referring to your outstanding support of habitat improvement projects for the Credit Valley and Halton Region Conservation Authorities.

And I might add that your fish-for-fun initiative on Kelso Creek has also impressed me. Like you, I believe it's the experience of fishing that is most important -- not the souvenir you take home.

I remember when the Izaak Walton Fly Fisherman's Club began in 1970 with two dozen members. Today the club has more than 350 members. And the enormous popularity of the Canadian Fly Fishing Forum, now starting its second decade, is testimony to the growing involvement of citizens in outdoor recreation and the conservation ethic you espouse.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has also made great strides, and today I would like to tell you what we are doing to maintain our healthy fishery. But first, let's look at what we're dealing with.

Ontario is a pretty big place. It's as big as Western Europe. It has a quarter-million lakes, and literally millions of kilometres of rivers and streams. These waterways are home to 144 types of fish, of which 12 species are avidly pursued by sportsmen. And it's been estimated that three million Ontarians fish at least once a year.

Sports fishing contributes \$700-million a year to the provincial economy, the equivalent of 25,000 new jobs.

And commercial fishing injects another \$35-million, with a harvest of 30 million kilograms of fish.

My ministry's fish hatcheries produced seven million fish in 1984-85. These fish were stocked in more than 1,000 lakes, rivers and streams across Ontario.

All in all, the ministry spends \$30-million a year on fisheries management. We have to be all things to all people -- an impossible task. We have to meet the needs of the fishing enthusiasts, the commercial fishermen, the conservationists.

To meet those needs, our fishery has to be kept up -- but costs have to be kept down. This presents us with quite a conundrum.

More fish -- bigger fish -- quality fish -- how can we do it all without blowing our budget?

The answer is we can't. Not alone. That's why we started programs like the Community Fisheries Involvement Program, or CFIP.

CFIP is one example of growing public involvement in the conservation and careful management of our resources. This program has enjoyed enormous success since it began in 1982. Through this program, community groups propose and carry out fisheries habitat improvement projects. My ministry provides money, materials and advice. The volunteers provide the labor.

In CFIP's first year, we funded 24 projects. This fiscal year, we have approved more than 100 projects.

CFIP has been such a success we started another one -- CWIP, or Community Wildlife Involvement Program -- to improve wildlife habitat. It shows every sign of being just as popular.

I appreciate your support of CFIP and other ministry programs, and I value your input and ideas.

I am also grateful for your support of another ministry initiative -- the resident angling licence we propose to introduce in 1987.

This licence could generate an additional \$10-million a year for fisheries rehabilitation and improved enforcement.

Ontario is the only province that does not yet require such a licence. And you are not alone in your support for it. This move has been endorsed by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the Canadian Wildlife Federation. When an idea like this receives such wide acclamation, I know the time is ripe for its introduction.

Nevertheless, in keeping with Premier Peterson's commitment to open government we want to hear what the public has to say on the subject. We have been holding meetings across the province to gather public input. The last meeting will be held on Tuesday in Owen Sound.

All of the additional revenue produced by a resident fishing licence will be directed back into our fishery and will no doubt have a dramatic impact on our programs. It means we'll be able to do more for CFIP and other programs -- more fish stocking, more research and assessment, more education for young people, the fishermen of the future.

A resident licence will also help us monitor how the resource is used -- who uses it, and what their needs are. That information will point us in the right direction for further research.

The result will be a stronger fishery -- and that means increased tourism, new jobs and more money put into Ontario's economy.

That's a tremendous spin-off from one simple action.

I've already mentioned our fish-stocking program. Generally, stocking has wide popular appeal. But stocking fish is not our ultimate aim.

CFIP projects, which focus on improved habitat for naturally-reproducing fish, are far more indicative of this ministry's approach to resource management. That's because increased stocking is futile unless there is adequate habitat and a sufficient food base to support additional fish populations.

I know your club understands that habitat improvement is the basis for sound fisheries management. I've seen your work with Trout Unlimited along the Credit River and I want to talk about that a little later.

Habitat improvement involves looking at the big picture. For example, if we remove a dam, what effect will this have on the fish population? How will it affect the streambanks? The plants that grow there? The wildlife that is supported by that environment?

Another way we look at the big picture -- both now and for the future -- is by creating 20-year fishery management plans for all the ministry's districts throughout Ontario. This year, we are holding open houses in eight MNR districts. And we will hold open houses in the other 39 districts before the end of next year.

That will give us the "big picture" of public interest and concerns for our fisheries, and provide direction for the future.

We recognize that a large part of that public interest comes from the people who most utilize that resource -- the commercial and sports fishermen. They, in particular, are affected by decisions made by this ministry.

That is why we plan to establish a Fisheries Advisory Council with representatives from sports and commercial fishing organizations across the province.

The council will not only advise my ministry on public opinion. It will be a forum for you to inform other user groups of your particular concerns.

In many ways this advisory council would be similar to the Saugeen River Advisory Council, which your club and Trout Unlimited were so instrumental in setting up.

Government programs can go a long way toward reaching our mutual goals. But it's groups like yours -- that back up their dreams for a quality fishery with their money and their manpower -- that really make the difference. Your sincerity and genuine interest in helping to educate others is what this forum is all about.

Earlier, I mentioned the extraordinary growth of the CFIP program.

Your club and Trout Unlimited have taken the CFIP philosophy one step further by working together on a number of projects on the Credit River, including log rip-rapping, creel surveys, streambank stabilization and environmental studies of the river.

This kind of co-operation is a model for other groups, and I am confident we'll be seeing more joint projects on the Credit and other rivers.

The Credit deserves a special mention at this point. I know of the significance of this river to your club, and I know that many of you will be out on the Credit next week -- again with Trout Unlimited -- for your annual work weekend.

At the Ministry of Natural Resources, we too think the Credit is an amazing waterway. It is within an hour's drive of almost five million people, yet it offers quality fishing and its resident trout population is still self-sustaining.

As you know only too well, the Credit has had enormous strains put on it over the past century. Its fortunes have risen and fallen in cycles, as our demands on the watershed have changed. The surrounding area has been used for forestry, for agriculture, and for quarrying.

The stocking that took place in the 1940s, '50s and '60s gave the fishery the boost it needed and today the fish reproduce naturally. But we'll have to work together to protect that healthy native population.

To do that, I would urge you to also strengthen your ties with other agencies that are involved in the administration of our lands and waters. There are a number of them.

- The Ministry of the Environment has the mandate to maintain good water quality for people and aquatic life. And I don't have to tell you how seriously Jim Bradley, the new minister, is taking his responsibilities.
- The local conservation authority is responsible for flood control and erosion control. This includes such works as streambank stabilization and channelization.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Food is responsible for control of erosion on agricultural land.
- And, of course, you must have a good working relationship with the private landowners; their co-operation can make or break your efforts.

But we need more than site-specific CFIP projects to preserve and maintain the fishery on the Credit.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has spent more than \$45,000 over the past three years on rehabilitation, and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority has spent about the same in the past two years.

This government recognizes the value of the Credit, and recently my ministry established 260 hectares of land at the Forks as part of the Niagara Escarpment parks system.

This system -- a chain of 105 parks reaching from Fonthill, near St. Catharines, and not far from Niagara Falls, to the tip of the Bruce Peninsula -- will consist of a mix of provincial parks and conservation areas.

As I mentioned earlier, we're working on 20-year management plans for the Credit and other important rivers. We'll be drawing on our own studies and research, but we want to hear what you have to say.

What do you want the Credit River to be like in the twenty-first century?

During the next 12 months, there will be a number of opportunities for this club to meet with ministry staff to talk about the Credit.

I know that one of your chief ambitions for this river is to have special regulations on the taking of trout.

And special regulations are being enforced elsewhere in Ontario. They are being tested now in northern Ontario, at such sites as Walleye Lake, the Sutton River and the Albany River.

Staff in my ministry's Cambridge and Maple offices are looking carefully at special regulations for the Credit and other rivers as an option that could be part of their fishery management plans. These plans are to be submitted to me by next April.

As I mentioned earlier, the process of preparing fisheries management plans requires a full public review. These documents will be available to your club, and to other interested groups. I know you will study them and offer valuable comments. I can assure you that your ideas will be carefully considered.

The Maple and Cambridge districts will hold open houses -- probably by next winter -- to allow you to comment on and discuss these fisheries plans with ministry staff. Please come out and give us the benefit of your experience and insight.

We must make plans for our waters now. We must have a vision of this province's future now. Only when we have a blueprint to follow, can we guide the development and protection of areas such as the Credit River. For only then will we have a clear vision of the results of our actions. And only then can we justify those actions.

Some of you may have heard of a comment made at the Wild Trout Symposium held in 1984 in West Yellowstone. Quote: "You manage exceptional rivers with exceptional management." That is how I feel about the Credit River.

With the help of dedicated people like you -- dedicated managers like you -- I know we can make the exceptional waters of the Credit a model of intelligent management and conservation-conscious use.

The Izaak Walton Fly Fisherman's Club has already impressed me with its commonsense approach to the protection and perpetuation of the fishery.

And at this forum you have a ready-made audience of 1,200 people to whom you can deliver the conservation message.

It's a message I too support, both as Minister of Natural Resources and as an enthusiastic fisherman.

The enormous success of this forum is due to the dedication of its sponsors, the Izaak Walton Fly Fisherman's Club, to the art and sport of fly fishing. I believe that here, in the congenial atmosphere of the Canadian Fly Fishing Forum, the club continues to get the conservation message across to an eager and sympathetic audience of like-minded sportsmen.

It's a message that bears repeating, and for that reason I hope the Canadian Fly Fishing Forum will enjoy another 10 years of success.



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REMARKS BY - 577



THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHING SYMPOSIUM

AT THE

BAYSHORE COMMUNITY CENTRE
OWEN SOUND, ONTARIO

APRIL 12, 1986
6:15 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you. I'm very glad to be here tonight. It's always a pleasure to get back up to the Bruce Peninsula. And I especially enjoy speaking to an audience with whom I have so much in common.

I say that because I am an admirer of your unflagging commitment to one of Ontario's natural resources -- our fisheries. The hard work and initiative you people display is an example to all of us who work in resource management.

A lot of hard work has also gone into putting this symposium together. I'm sure everyone here will agree that the organizers have done an outstanding job.

I'm very much in favor of occasions such as these which bring together resource users and resource managers. I'm in favor of anything that gets people talking to each other. And having representation from the United States, as well as from Ontario, makes this type of forum even more worthwhile.

We're all here tonight for one reason -- we believe the Great Lakes sport fishery is a special resource and we want to keep it that way. It's special because whether you're five or 95, the fish are there to enjoy.

It's true Ontario's fishing industry -- both commercial and sport -- makes a significant contribution to the provincial economy. And it's a valuable source of food. But I think most people care about the Great Lakes fisheries for the simple reason that they enjoy fishing.

I've been enjoying fishing all my life. I grew up in Niagara Falls with two Great Lakes at my doorstep. Believe me I took advantage of that. These days I do most of my fishing at my family's cottage on Lake Temagami.

I think the biggest difference between now, and when I was a boy, is the change in attitude toward fish as a resource. Today, the need for careful management, planning and conservation is better understood. And a sense of responsibility to the resource is expected on the part of everyone who fishes.

What we've learned over the years -- the hard way -- is that this resource is both fragile and finite. But despite all the changes, we've still got a strong and varied fish resource. That's due to the effort and hard work of a lot of people -- research biologists, scientists, fishery managers, and increasingly, the people who fish.

When I took office as Minister of Natural Resources last June, I was impressed with the accomplishments of the ministry's fisheries branch. We have talented and knowledgeable people at MNR who have worked to build a solid foundation of provincial fisheries management programs.

That foundation influences the direction our programs will take in the future -- and that is what I want to talk about tonight. Where are we going with our fisheries programs? What are our long-term goals? And, working together, how can we best achieve them?

First of all, let's consider the wealth we have to work with -- the Great Lakes, a quarter million inland lakes, and countless rivers and streams. There is no doubt we are blessed with a variety of fishing opportunities in this province, unmatched anywhere else on the continent.

Our job is to maintain that richness. We are also working to restore and bring back traditional fisheries. These include fisheries that were destroyed through decades of overfishing, through pollution from unchecked industrial expansion and, in some instances, through the introduction of non-native species.

This is not a task that we, as fisheries managers, can accomplish on our own. We need your help. That's another thing I've learned since becoming Minister. I have gained a greater appreciation for the role of public participation in resource management.

I believe it is essential for the public to accept a degree of responsibility for the resources from which they benefit. I will be emphasizing this often as I meet with groups and individuals across the province.

We are continuing to develop programs that take us in that direction. Those of you who attended the Toronto Sportsmen's Show last month probably visited the ministry display. As always, it was one of the highlights of the show. This year the theme was what I've been talking about -- the importance of working together.

Of course, greater public involvement in resource management isn't new to my ministry. It has long been reflected in many of the MNR programs you are familiar with, such as the Community Fisheries Involvement Program.

I can't help but be impressed with the work of CFIP. Many of you here tonight are involved in CFIP projects. Your accomplishments are commendable. And your enthusiasm is a clear indication that the public cares about natural resources.

We want to build on this interest by developing our public consultation process even more. We aren't going to let you off easy. We not only want your time and labor, we want your ideas and suggestions too.

As you know, a round of public meetings is going on across the province right now to find out what people think about a resident angling licence. The last of the 18 meetings will be held on Tuesday night at the Owen Sound Public Library. I encourage everyone here tonight who is from this area to be there.

Ontario is one of the few places in North America where it is still possible for resident anglers to fish without a licence. I understand the position of people who say it would be nice to keep it that way.

But I also know that revenues from such a licence will make it possible to significantly expand and enhance our fisheries programs. More fish habitat will be rehabilitated and new hatcheries will be built. There will be more money for CFIP projects.

All things considered, I believe a resident licence is good news for the anglers in this province. And you will be glad to know we have been assured that all revenues from a licence will be channelled back into fisheries programs.

A resident angling licence also fits into the "user-pay" approach to resource management that we encourage.

Of course, this approach doesn't apply only to sport fishing. Beginning in 1987, commercial fishermen in Ontario will be paying a new royalty on commercial catches.

And it goes beyond the fisheries. Hunters buy licences to hunt, campers pay fees to camp in provincial parks. And lumber and mining companies pay logging and extraction fees.

Well, I guess I've made it pretty clear where I stand on this issue. But before anything is finalized, we need to know where you -- and your fellow anglers across the province -- stand. So please come out to the meeting next week, and bring your fishing friends.

Now, after encouraging you to come out to next week's meeting, I want to thank all of you who attended last week's District Fisheries Management Planning Open House in Owen Sound.

I told you we weren't going to let you off easy. You thought fishing was a nice, relaxing hobby for summer weekends. I sometimes wonder how any of you manage to get any fishing in at all. If you're not attending public meetings or open houses, you're working on CFIP projects.

By the way, if any of you missed that open house, you can still let us know what concerns you most about our long-term plans for the area fishery. Just send in your suggestions and comments to the local district office before May 2.

There's a lot of information in the draft management plan that was distributed at the open house last week. Some exciting developments are in store for the Owen Sound area.

According to the draft proposal, the major thrust of local management efforts will continue to be directed toward coldwater fish stocks in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. Wild stocks of rainbow trout, brown trout and chinook salmon will be supplemented with plantings of fish reared by MNR and under CFIP projects.

Our stocking record in this area is excellent. Last year, almost one million fish were planted in Owen Sound district waters.

CFIP projects must be credited for a good deal of the stocking effort. Between the fall of 1984 and the fall of 1985, three mini-hatchery and seven upwelling incubation box projects were undertaken by local sportsmen's clubs. Chinook salmon, brown trout and rainbow trout eggs were collected for these fish culture projects.

As you know, 1985 was the first year chinook were stocked in Owen Sound district waters. In total, 129,150 chinook salmon smolts were released in three Lake Huron tributaries and one Georgian Bay tributary, as part of CFIP projects.

These fish will augment the salmon fishery that has already developed in the Goderich-Southampton area as a result of the stocking programs of our American friends on the other side of the lake.

Efforts will also continue to be directed toward establishing a self-sustaining lake trout backcross population in southwestern and northwestern Georgian Bay.

I know there are a lot of opinions out there as to the potential of the backcross as a viable coldwater species. I think it has already proven itself as an excellent sport fish. Whether or not it will be able to self-reproduce in sufficient numbers, remains to be seen.

To that end, we are undertaking a 10-year study, beginning this spring, to compare and assess the performance of lake trout and lake trout backcross in Georgian Bay around Owen Sound. A similar program may be carried out in northern Georgian Bay in the future.

We already know that backcross are reproducing naturally in these waters. This paired planting study will further determine the merits -- if any -- of one species over the other.

The study calls for annual stocking in Owen Sound of 100,000 lake trout and 100,000 backcross for five consecutive years. Four separate sites will be planted in the Sound. The fish in each site will have a coded nose tag so their point of origin can be identified.

You might be interested to know that both species were obtained from the same Lake Manitou lake trout gene pool, and that they were raised in the same hatchery under identical conditions.

This project has many implications. It will provide direction for future fisheries management -- not only in Georgian Bay but in other waters of the province as well.

Of course, fish management extends far beyond fish culture. In fact, fish management programs over the next five years in the Owen Sound district will generally focus on assessment and rehabilitation.

That's because increased stocking is a futile effort unless there is adequate habitat and a sufficient food base to support the additional fish populations.

This is another area where the ministry is indebted to those of you who are part of a CFIP project. Most of the local stream rehabilitation and spawning ground projects carried out over the past three years likely wouldn't have happened without your hard work.

You know, CFIP has become so successful that it's difficult to imagine what we did without it. Many of you will be pleased to know that this success has prompted us to consider expanding the CFIP mandate to include large-scale projects sponsored by municipalities and private corporations.

These larger projects would involve such things as building fishways, dredging spawning channels, and other major habitat works.

I think it's a good idea, and one that we will definitely be working on. The implementation of a resident licence would be a big boost in providing funds for these kinds of projects.

There are other benefits to CFIP you may not have considered. It serves to make an entire community -- not just anglers -- more aware and appreciative of their local fishery resource. As well, improved fishing draws tourists -- and tourist dollars -- to the area. This is another reason that municipalities may want to get involved in large-scale fishery improvement projects.

Over the past few years, the local Lake Huron/Georgian Bay area has also benefited from reduced pressure from commercial operators. Much of this is due to MNR's buy-back efforts.

Provincewide, we've bought back 52 licences, 19 of them in the Lake Huron/Georgian Bay fishery. We will continue to buy back commercial licences on a selective basis, where over-exploited stocks or unavoidable user conflicts exist. In these areas, I believe buy-backs are the most economically sensible solution.

In other areas -- where conflict is unintentional due to the use of non-selective fishing gear -- we will encourage a switch from gill nets to live entrapment gear.

Both of these initiatives will help enormously in the efforts to build up populations of non-commercial species.

In general, the ministry is pleased with the progress of the commercial fishing modernization program and quota system. I honestly feel that, as fishery managers, we have turned a corner in improving communications and finding common ground with commercial operators.

As Minister, it is my job to ensure that our commonly-owned natural resources are allocated fairly. It is then up to the resource user groups to do their best to resolve differences among themselves. In this instance, I think both anglers and commercial fishermen have come a long way.

A good local example is the co-operation displayed by commercial fishermen during the Chantry Chinook Classic last August. For three weeks, the commercial fishing boats voluntarily stayed away from the derby area off the Sauble and Saugeen Rivers. That kind of "working together" attitude not only makes life easier all around, it also benefits the fishery.

I'm glad to say that fishery management activity is increasing right across the province. Last year, our provincial fish culture stations produced about 11 million fish for stocking into more than 1,000 lakes, rivers and streams. We stocked close to four and a half million fish in the Great Lakes alone.

We spent \$3.8-million constructing new hatcheries, and expanding and upgrading existing ones. This included construction at North Bay, at Tarentorus near Sault Ste. Marie, at Harwood on Rice Lake, and at White Lake near Perth.

Plans are being developed for a new incubation and early rearing facility at Blue Jay Creek on Manitoulin Island.

Another project to keep your eye on is the experimental cage culture project located near Little Current on Manitoulin Island.

Production in these cages increased from 16,000 lake trout backcross in 1984, to 60,000 lake trout backcross plus 14,000 lake trout in 1985. Due to some promising advances in culture techniques, we now expect that 1986-87 may see production of as many as 300,000 backcross and 70,000 lake trout.

As far as long-term planning goes, never before have we had such comprehensive fishery management plans in the works. We're in the process of drafting plans for eight key districts across Ontario -- Owen Sound is one -- to serve as prototypes for the rest of the province.

Our children and grandchildren will be the direct beneficiaries of these plans. What they fish for in the next century will depend very much on how successfully we co-operate in managing the fish resource today.

It will depend on the quality of our research programs in fish disease and fish nutrition. It will depend on our ability to clean up the environment -- and keep it clean.

It will depend on advances and improvements in our methods of fish culture to breed stronger, more adaptable species. It will depend on fair and consistent enforcement of fishing regulations.

Mostly, it will depend on all of us -- anglers, commercial fishermen, scientists, research biologists and fisheries managers -- getting involved and working together. I think we can do it. After all, we have a lot in common -- we enjoy fishing.



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REMARKS BY

MARY MOGFORD
DEPUTY MINISTER
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

GREG CLARK OUTDOOR EDITORIAL WRITING AWARD
LUNCHEON

AT THE

TORONTO PRESS CLUB
5 WELLESLEY STREET WEST
TORONTO

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1986
NOON

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

I would like to welcome you all to the Greg Clark Outdoor Editorial Writing Award luncheon. It is a function to which I look forward with increasing pleasure each year.

Unfortunately, the Minister, Vincent Kerrio, could not be with us today. He asked me to extend his warm regards to all of you, and his heartiest congratulations to the winner, John Power.

John, Mr. Kerrio has asked me to express his personal regrets at not being here today. He wants me to tell you how much he's enjoyed meeting and talking with you after reading your column for so long. And he also wants me to assure you that last year's salmon fishing trip on Lake Ontario was so enjoyable that it doesn't matter how small the fish were.

I'm sure that most of you know that Mr. Kerrio's interest in the outdoors extends well beyond his duties as Minister of Natural Resources. He is a keen outdoorsman and has travelled widely throughout this province. As a sportsman, he places a high value on Ontario's natural assets.

For this reason, I know he, like me, has a deep personal appreciation of the significance of the Greg Clark Award.

Greg Clark was an avid outdoorsman and a fierce conservationist. As a journalist writing about the outdoors, his ideas influenced the thinking of many people.

He is probably best remembered for his humorous articles, which appeared in the Star Weekly and later, Weekend Magazine. His stories were brilliantly illustrated, first by his good friend Jimmie Frise, then by Duncan Macpherson.

Thousands of Canadians looked forward to spending a part of their weekend with Greg Clark. And many came to feel a personal friendship with the Clark family through his stories. Some of the Clark family are here today with us, and I extend an especially warm welcome to them.

I would also like to thank the judges of this award, who had the difficult job of sifting through 29 entries before arriving at their decision. The judges were:

- Grant Mulholland, retired executive director of Outdoor Writers of Canada;
- Ray Gilbert, executive director of the Fur Institute of Canada; and,
- Jack Davis, retired editor of Ontario Angler and Hunter magazine, who is now the executive director of Outdoor Writers of Canada and media relations manager for the Labatt's Fishing Series.

Thanks to each of you for volunteering your time for this effort.

This year's winner is a familiar face at the Ministry of Natural Resources. John Power has been writing about the outdoors for 25 years and his column in the Toronto Star -- appropriately enough, Greg Clark's old stamping ground -- is widely read.

John's winning entry was published in "Legion" magazine in April 1985 and is called "Swamp Secrets". In it, he tells us of a favorite place of his childhood which he refers to simply as "my swamp".

John's swamp no longer exists, and in his article he presents a strong case for preserving wetlands. He cites their many functions: as wildlife and aquatic habitat, as a producer of raw materials, as a natural filter to remove chemicals from the water, as a reservoir.

At the Ministry of Natural Resources, we too know wetlands are something special, and we are now completing an inventory of Ontario wetlands.

We recognize the important role that wetlands play in the ecological balance, and we are doing what we can to save them.

This article is more than an eloquent plea for the preservation of a vanishing resource. I think everyone who read it identified with this evocative account of John's secret place. We each had some special natural place in our childhood and this article stirred up many happy memories.

"Swamp Secrets" touched a responsive chord in all the judges, and was written in the finest tradition of a Greg Clark piece.

I think Greg Clark would be pleased to see the renewed interest the people of this province have in the wetlands and forests and lakes of Ontario. He was privy to many of the secrets of nature.

He might use an occasion like this as an opportunity to talk seriously about conservation and the environment. But I think that here, at a gathering of his fellow journalists, he'd likely tell you about one of his many adventures in the out-of-doors.

Perhaps he would tell us about the time he and Jimmie Frise headed off to a swamp near Fergus for a rabbit hunt. The year was 1934 and, to keep warm in the open car, they had two bearskins, complete with claws and teeth. Six hounds and a friend, acting as guide, accompanied them.

Well, the party split up and Greg got lost and slipped off a log, falling full-length into a creek. Of course he was thoroughly soaked.

He returned to his car, wrapped himself in a bear rug, and proceeded to look for Jimmie.

Suddenly the hounds, frantic with excitement, were baying all around him. He fell down again, the bear rug billowing around him, and heard Jimmie say to their guide, "Hold still until I get him in the head!"

Greg let loose with a loud cry. Jimmie Frise came home empty-handed but with a heck of a good story about the bear that got away.

In his tales of the great outdoors, Greg Clark often poked fun at his favorite victim -- himself. He liked to paint a picture of himself as an inept sportsman but, in fact, he was an expert fly-tyer, an inveterate bird-watcher and was a founder of the club that was to become the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. He also wrote the text of "Game Fishes of Canada".

His favorite places often provided a backdrop for his humorous stories. But he also wrote eloquently and convincingly about the need to conserve our natural resources. He once wrote:

"No national asset is more fragile than our wildlife. Canada appreciates her responsibility in this respect.

But the intelligence of our game laws is vain without the intelligent co-operation of all who share the treasure."

Thirty years later, John Power writes in "Swamp Secrets":

"Wetlands are far too important to be a political football. They are everyone's responsibility -- individuals, industry and government....

.... They should be regarded as priceless assets, not costly liabilities."

Oddly enough, a response to this year's winning article for the Greg Clark Outdoor Editorial Writing Award was voiced more than 50 years ago.

John Power, like Greg Clark, has been both a strong ally and a worthy critic of the Ministry of Natural Resources. His opinions and comments are well-informed, and I am delighted to see him following in Greg Clark's footsteps as a champion of the conservation cause.

Fifty years later, the outdoor writers of this province are still doing well.

I am pleased that John Power is among them, and is being appropriately honored for his contribution here today.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE
LAMBTON COUNTY RURAL GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

BROOKE-ALVINSTON COMMUNITY HALL
ALVINSTON, ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1986
6:45 P.M.

As Delivered by
Tim Millard, Executive Co-ordinator
Outdoor Recreation Group
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good evening everyone.

Vincent Kerrio, the Minister of Natural Resources, wanted to be here tonight and very much regrets that he could not come. I am pleased to be here on his behalf -- not only because I like to keep in touch with old friends and renew acquaintances, but also because gathered here tonight are many of the decision-makers of Lambton region.

This annual event provides a tremendous opportunity for us to review our common progress over the years, and for me to tell you about some of the new directions the ministry is taking.

It's certainly an opportunity I appreciate, for I know you are all aware of the importance of our natural resources.

Our province is blessed with mineral, forest, wildlife and water resources that are virtually unmatched anywhere in the world. These resources are vital to the life of every Ontarian.

It is the job of the Ministry of Natural Resources to manage this abundant wealth -- for the greatest benefit of all Ontarians.

That is a big job. We must be all things to all people -- and take into account the needs and often conflicting demands of all resource users. We have to consider how all our actions affect the next person -- and the next generation.

One of our resources shared by many users is our fishery. More than a third of Ontario residents -- or two-and-a-quarter million people -- fish at least once a year. Altogether, sport fishing injects some \$700-million annually to our economy. The commercial fishing industry adds another \$35-million.

At MNR, we're working hard to protect and maintain this valuable resource. The ministry currently spends more than \$30-million a year on fisheries management. This money is used for programs such as fish and habitat protection, fish stocking, research and public involvement and education programs.

Last year alone, our provincial fish culture stations produced 11-million fish for stocking into more than 1,000 lakes, rivers and streams. We stocked close to four-and-a-half-million fish in the Great Lakes alone. We spent close to \$3.8-million constructing new hatcheries, and expanding and upgrading existing ones. Just last month, we stocked the St. Clair River with 40,000 trout.

But we want to do more.

That is why my Minister, Vincent Kerrio, wants to introduce a resident angling licence in Ontario next year. He has promised that all of the revenue generated by this licence -- an estimated \$10-million -- will go to improve Ontario's fisheries.

Our province is one of the few places in North America where it is still possible for resident anglers to fish without a licence. I understand those who say it would be nice to keep it that way.

I also know that the revenues from such a licence will make it possible to significantly expand and enhance our fisheries improvement programs.

That means more fish will be stocked, more hatcheries will be built. There will be more money for the Community Fisheries Involvement Program.

As you know, an improved Ontario fishery means more fishing opportunities. This in turn means more revenue from tourism, resulting in increased benefits to the hospitality industry, retailers and other businesses and service industries.

A resident angling licence will also give fisheries managers important information about how the resource is being used. MNR will be able to monitor who is fishing, where and for what, and our fisheries management programs will become better geared to the needs of the angler.

The resident angling licence has received strong support from many sports groups -- the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, the Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters Association, the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

We also held a series of 18 public meetings across the province to gather public comment on our proposal. Currently it is being suggested that residents aged 18 to 64 pay \$10 a year, and those over 65 pay \$5 a year.

Assessment of the results of those public meetings will be completed later this month, but it appears most Ontarians support the concept of a resident angling licence as a means of helping to pay for the protection, maintenance and rebuilding of the resource they use.

People want to take responsibility for the resources they use.

In our successful Community Fisheries Involvement Program, concerned citizens like you are working with us to increase fish populations and improve fish populations in their areas.

The Blue Water Anglers Fish Hatchery in Sarnia is an excellent example of a local CFIP project that has achieved outstanding success. What began as a modest undertaking several years ago with CFIP funding is quickly becoming a big operation.

Through CFIP we supply advice as well as money for materials and equipment. The volunteers supply the labor.

The idea behind CFIP is to give the public a chance to work with MNR to improve sport fishing in their area. We encourage you to develop any ideas you might have.

For those interested in wildlife, we have a wildlife program that somewhat parallels CFIP. It's called CWIP, which stands for Community Wildlife Involvement Program.

Like CFIP, CWIP is a program that gives the public an opportunity to participate in the design and implementation of wildlife habitat improvement projects.

Enthusiasm for this new program is growing rapidly. In Chatham District, three CWIP projects are under way. At the Holiday Beach Waterfowl Unit, Donald Davidson and his friends have rebuilt a waterfowl viewing stand. This will allow people to see the birds up close, without endangering either the people or the birds.

The Lambton County Trapper's Council constructed a mobile trapping display booth to be used throughout your district to teach the public about fur management. This imaginative mobile display shows the variety of furbearing animals in this area and illustrates methods of humane trapping.

The third CWIP proposal, submitted by the Windsor Sportsmen Juniors, was approved by the ministry last month. Assisted by senior sportsmen, these youngsters are constructing wood duck nesting boxes for the Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

As you can see, there has been a lot of interest in your area in our Community Wildlife Involvement Program. We are looking forward to receiving more applications in the near future. And I should mention that you don't have to be part of a large organization to participate. Individuals, like Donald Davidson, are just as welcome. All you need is a good idea and the enthusiasm to carry out your project.

For example, CWIP could be a vehicle for you to improve hunting opportunities. I know many of you are small-game hunters. Under CWIP, you can develop habitat-improvement projects for the properties of co-operative landowners. These improvements don't necessarily have to be aimed at game species.

By enhancing habitat for, say, bluebirds or purple martins, you can help demonstrate that hunters are conservationists. CWIP offers funds for necessary equipment and materials, as well as MNR expertise and advice to help with these projects.

CWIP offers sportsmen, like yourselves, an opportunity to put something back into the wildlife resource, and an opportunity to help ensure that future generations will enjoy the same quality of outdoor experiences.

Another topic I am sure you are interested in -- particularly those of you who are farmers -- is the status of the province's wetlands policy.

You're all familiar with the value of large wetlands, and in this area you're fortunate to have a number of them. There's Port Franks in The Pinery, Walpole Island, Skunk's Misery, Byron Bog north of London, Balmoral Marsh and Rondeau Bay.

But the smaller marshy lands that some of you may have on your own properties are just as important.

Wetlands are habitat for many wildlife species. They also serve as natural filtering systems, collecting and breaking down chemicals that would otherwise drain off farmland, and into our water systems.

Yet 80 per cent of the original two million acres of wetlands in southern Ontario have already been drained.

To protect and conserve our remaining wetlands, the province established guidelines for wetlands management in 1984. As one of the first stages of implementation, MNR has undertaken a total inventory of Ontario's wetlands. By 1987, all significant wetlands in southern Ontario will have been evaluated on their biological, social and economic value, and ranked into one of seven classifications.

We are still working on our wetland protection. We hope that the policy can be set out in 1987, after full consultation with the public and other government agencies affected by such policy. The policy would be backed up by the Planning Act, where the seven classifications would be reflected by appropriate regulation.

Those wetlands that are proven to have provincial significance -- Classes 1 and 2 -- will likely be protected by appropriate planning by municipalities.

In this district so far, Port Franks has been given a Class 1 evaluation. This year, we'll be looking at places like the Wawanash wetlands, Stag Island, and wooded swamps throughout the county.

At the Ministry of Natural Resources, we realize that people who own swamplands need and deserve an incentive to maintain that land when it could be more financially rewarding to use it in other ways. And we're working on ways to make wetland maintenance an attractive proposition.

We're working with Wildlife Habitat Canada on a program to purchase wetlands. We're trying to convince Wildlife Habitat Canada that it should match us for every dollar the ministry and other interest groups spend.

We're also working with the Ministry of Revenue, studying how a taxation or compensation system can be structured to meet this need. This could involve a tax rebate or reclassification of the land. It means we also must consult with municipalities so that their tax base is maintained. We're also working on conservation easement agreements. And we have working agreements with interest groups such as Ducks Unlimited, the Natural Heritage League and the Nature Conservancy of Canada to bring landowners and groups together.

You can see that wetland protection is a complicated business. I assure you that this ministry is looking long and hard at ways to marry the interests of private landowners with the interests of all other users of the resource. We're trying to find creative ways to make it worth your while to protect wetlands.

We need your ideas and solutions in managing wetlands -- like all other resources in Ontario -- in an integrated way.

Like wetlands, our woodlots also provide both environmental and financial benefits. Forests help reduce soil erosion. They provide habitat for wildlife and provide recreational opportunities.

Many landowners in Lambton County have taken advantage of the various services offered under the private land forestry program.

You have grown wind barriers, and you have worked in co-operation with district MNR staff to manage your forest lands. I think it is great that you can make profits from your woodlots because that means you are going to keep them for a long, long time.

Having a woodlot is much like having an annuity. It is an investment in your future. Every five, 10, or 15 years -- whatever your harvesting schedule -- you receive an income from your forest.

While it is true that we are planting trees and managing forests, it is also true that forests are being cut prematurely or cleared to make way for more farmland.

Lambton County already has too few trees. Only 7.5 per cent of the county is forested. That is why your county passed a tree-cutting bylaw. I commend you for your leadership in acting wisely for the sake of your children and grandchildren. It shows that Lambton County is committed to protecting its natural resources.

Your efforts to conserve forests will benefit all Ontarians in the long run. We at MNR appreciate your participation in resource management. And we hope you'll continue to profit from your woodlots.

Speaking of profits, The Pinery is an example of how co-operation can lead directly to profits for local business.

I know I don't have to tell you this, but The Pinery is one of the most interesting natural environment parks in the province. It provides opportunities for the public to view wildlife -- beaver, muskrat, deer, some waterfowl, brush wolves, and numerous species of shorebirds -- in their natural habitat. During summer, The Pinery always enjoyed overflowing crowds. But in winter, this park -- like many others in the province -- was abandoned.

That is, until park staff decided to promote use of the park on a year-round basis.

To this end, MNR staff worked with the Chamber of Commerce in Grand Bend to develop promotions that are now proving very successful.

Sharing advertising costs, the chamber and The Pinery succeeded in attracting winter enthusiasts who filled Grand Bend's available accommodation every winter weekend this past year. And now, local merchants are expanding their businesses.

This local success story is a perfect example of how our natural resources can be used to attract tourism revenue. I wish you continued success in your co-operative efforts with The Pinery.

But profits are not always measured in terms of dollars and cents. Indeed, in the programs I've discussed this evening, there are also many non-monetary benefits for all Ontarians.

For example, the introduction of a resident angling licence is really an investment in the future. Our acceptance of this licensing proposal signals our commitment to the proper management of Ontario's natural resources -- for everyone's sake.

Similarly, I urge you to manage your woodlots for long-term harvesting and profits. And I've already mentioned how important wetlands are in filtering chemicals from the water before they reach our rivers and lakes.

These aren't benefits that will show up on any balance sheet -- but they are real benefits, just the same.

Ultimately, your community will decide these resource issues, and those to come. I encourage you to act with foresight and in a spirit of co-operation.

And on that note, it is only fitting that I take this opportunity to congratulate a man in this community who has been a volunteer deputy conservation officer for 35 years.

This man has a heart as big as his name. By now you must know I am talking about none other than Joe Lucan Sr. -- Big Joe.

Joe is a legend. This past winter he was nicknamed "The Hound" when he managed to track down a deer no one else could find. His instincts and good sense have proved invaluable over the years.

Joe has spent thousands of dollars from his own pocket to replace or repair personal equipment that was damaged in the course of performing his duties.

My colleague in Toronto, Dale Gartley, who worked with Big Joe for many years says and I quote: "Joe accepts you as if you were his own child. He is generous with all the guys and doesn't play any favorites. He is probably the best public relations man we have. He's very supportive and he gives out good information to all those who ask." End of quote.

For 35 years of volunteering, we thank you, Joe Lucan. Come on up here Big Joe, I have something to give you.

Let's give Joe a big hand. Thank you.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

CHARLES
NR
- 577

REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT

**THE WALTER L. PLONSKI FOREST
DEDICATION CEREMONY**

SWASTIKA FOREST STATION
SWASTIKA, ONTARIO

MAY 2, 1986
12:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Welcome to The Walter L. Plonski Forest.

At a time when Ontario's forests are under close scrutiny, it is important to bring some perspective to our studies. Some people think our forests have endured despite man. I believe they have endured because of man -- because of men like Dr. Walter Plonski.

Today we are honoring a true pioneer. Dr. Plonski laid the foundation for forest management planning in Ontario -- right here in this forest -- more than 25 years ago.

When Dr. Plonski came to Canada from Poland after the war, he brought with him vast experience in forestry matters. He had taught at the Universities of Lwow and Warsaw before becoming head of forest management planning for the Polish State Forests.

Dr. Plonski joined our ministry -- then known as the Department of Lands and Forests -- in 1948. His career with us was a long and prolific one. Fifteen years after his retirement, his work is still the standard for excellence among the foresters of my ministry. If anything, Dr. Plonski is something of a living legend among his peers.

Throughout his 22 years with this ministry, Dr. Plonski broke new ground in the science of forestry. He laid the foundation for many of the forest management planning techniques that are used today.

He was the first to outline the principle of site classification -- ranking land sites according to their timber-producing capabilities. This procedure has been in continuous use since he devised it more than 30 years ago.

In the early 1950s, Dr. Plonski used this forest to demonstrate the practical applications of management planning.

Later, Dr. Plonski was largely responsible for the first manual of forest management plan requirements for the Province of Ontario.

Dr. Plonski dedicated 22 years of his working life to forest management planning in this province. His research and techniques developed forest management from primitive beginnings to an exacting science.

Now forest management is at another turning point. We are planning now to ensure that we continue to have quality forests tomorrow.

We are putting our forest resource under the microscope with studies such as the Provincial Auditor's Report on Forest Management -- with the Class Environment Assessment -- with the Baskerville review.

I believe that when we've finished looking through the microscope, we will have a new vision of tomorrow's forests -- a vision that will rival the imagination and scope of Dr. Plonski's when he set down the principles of forest management in Ontario 25 years ago.

I would ask Dr. Plonski to join me here.

This is the second time in less than three months that Dr. Plonski and I have shared a platform. In February, I was asked to present him with the first Ontario Forestry Award, created by the Ontario Forestry Association. It was given to him in recognition of exemplary professionalism and significant achievement in forest management in Ontario.

Today, the Ministry of Natural Resources is honoring one of its own.

When I asked his colleagues how they would sum up Dr. Plonski's work, I was inundated with superlatives. Some people expressed their admiration with phrases like "a great forester and gentleman" and "he set the highest standards for all foresters" and "a totally professional and delightful man".

Dr. Plonski is held in such high esteem that some people couldn't even put words to their emotions.

Rarely does one encounter a person whose professionalism and personality inspire such deep feelings of loyalty, admiration, and outright affection.

I believe, then, that it is fitting that your career should be saluted by returning to the roots of that career, here in this forest.

I hereby name this, The Walter L. Plonski Forest.

Dr. Plonski, I would also like to present to you this bound copy of the management plan for the Walter L. Plonski Forest. This plan outlines how this forest will be managed to the year 1998.

The Walter L. Plonski Forest was the first in Ontario to be managed using techniques you pioneered. You will find in this volume that those techniques are still the standard for excellence in forestry management.

Our forests and our foresters are the better because of your enduring work.

This forest is testimony to the soundness of those principles.

We thank you for your vision and dedication to the living resource.



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NOTES FOR - 577

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT KERRO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

MEDIA BRIEFING ON GYPSY MOTH AERIAL SPRAYING

KINGSTON, ONTARIO

MAY 8, 1986
4:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Anyone who lives in this area could not be unaware of the enormous damage caused by the gypsy moth caterpillar.

Entire forests in the eastern United States have been denuded by these pests, and as you know, they crossed the border in 1969. Last year, more than 246,000 hectares of land suffered moderate-to-severe damage. This was concentrated in the areas of Tweed, Carleton Place, Napanee and Kingston.

At this very moment, gypsy moth eggs are hatching. Pretty soon billions of caterpillars will be feeding on the young leaves of our forests.

The gypsy moth will never be eradicated here in eastern Ontario, but we can -- we must -- fight to limit the defoliation of our forests.

That is why I'm pleased to announce that Cabinet has approved increased funding for the gypsy moth aerial spraying program of the Ministry of Natural Resources. The budget for this year's spraying program has virtually been doubled -- to \$11.5-million.

There are two components to the aerial spraying program. First is the spraying of private land. This has top priority with my Ministry. And as a result of the increased funding, we will be able to spray the property of some 61 per cent of the landowners who applied to be part of this program. That translates into 55,000 hectares of private land being protected from infestation.

The second component of the aerial spraying program is the spraying of Crown lands. These lands include isolated areas which are called "hot spots" because infestation is high. The purpose of spraying here is to reduce the rate of spread. Our Crown land program also includes such lands as provincial park campgrounds and deer yards. Altogether, 30,000 hectares of Crown land will be sprayed.

Spraying will take place in the counties of Frontenac, Peterborough, Renfrew, Hastings, Leeds & Grenville, Prince Edward, Lennox & Addington and Lanark Counties.

Local staff of the Ministry of Natural Resources have been meeting with a committee representing these counties. In three short months they've put together a private land spraying program that will give the maximum benefits to the greatest number of landowners.

It is unfortunate but, not all the landowners who applied for the program could be accommodated. Those we could not accommodate will be notified by my county staff as soon as possible.

Small, or scattered, or isolated properties, and land where adjacent neighbors would not provide consent operationally to spray a particular landowner's property, could not be accommodated. The logistics of spraying these types of properties are just not feasible.

The spraying program will begin in about 10 days. As you probably know, we will be using a biological insecticide called Bacillus thuringiensis or Bt.

I want to emphasize what the aerial spraying program can and cannot do.

It cannot eradicate the gypsy moth. The gypsy moth is an unwelcome alien resident with few natural enemies here in North America.

What the aerial spraying program can do is control the rate at which this pest is spreading. It will keep the forests green. It will help reduce the rate at which the caterpillar moves into new territory when it gets a ride on the wind, or on wood being transported to market, or on vehicles travelling through an infested area.

This program is one of containment and maintenance.

The government had considered the option of using chemical sprays. This option had the widespread approval of the public, judging from the comments we received at open houses to discuss this problem with the people affected by it.

Unfortunately, this option was taken from the government in the Legislature.

But I believe Bt is an effective means we have available to us right now.

In the future, I look forward to increased involvement with the counties. Together, through our new municipal/provincial partnership we will continue to seek ways to protect our valuable forest resources.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

CAZON

REMARKS BY

NR

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THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

**CANADA/ONTARIO FOREST MANAGEMENT
SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT CEREMONY**

ORONO NURSERY

ORONO, ONTARIO

MAY 12, 1986
10 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good morning everyone, and a special welcome to the students of Clarke High School and The Pines Senior Public School.

We are standing in what looks like a fairly ordinary setting -- the protected atmosphere of a greenhouse -- thousands of delicate-looking seedlings -- surrounded by trees. It all looks pretty normal.

The fact is, when you are strolling later today among these seedlings, you'll be standing ankle-deep in the stuff of science fiction.

Since 1968, staff of the Ministry of Natural Resources here at Orono have been working on the vegetative propagation of conifers. Put simply, that means they are working on how to grow bigger and better spruce trees by cloning them.

I don't need to tell you what cloning is. Mankind has been toying with the idea of genetic duplication since the popularization of the Greek myths.

Here in this nursery at Orono, this ministry is engaged in the rooting of juvenile cuttings. Most weekend gardeners have tried this at some time -- you take a cutting from a plant, give it optimum water or soil conditions, and eventually it forms roots -- a new individual.

The improvement program takes this a step further. We take large cuttings from genetically-superior trees and graft them onto another, young tree. Many grafts are planted together as an orchard. They flower and produce seed. These seeds are germinated to produce seedlings. Cuttings are taken from these seedlings and rooted. More cuttings are taken from the rooted cuttings, and they in turn are rooted again to produce more plants.

So, you can see that many trees can be produced from one germinated seed.

Later on, Glenn McLeod, superintendent here at Orono, will tell you how the juvenile cutting program works.

I'd like to tell you what it will eventually mean for the forests of Ontario.

It means we'll be able to match specific types of conifers with the soil in which they'll grow best.

It means we'll be able to select parent plants for specific, desirable traits and reproduce those traits in new plants.

It means we'll be able to economically mass-produce trees that are now too expensive to produce, for example, clones that are more resistant to disease.

That's the stuff of science fiction. Yet it's all based on fact -- facts that have been known for centuries. At Orono Nursery, we're applying centuries-old knowledge to coniferous species. These are the forests that support northern Ontario and its timber industry.

The work we're doing here will result in a steady supply of superior wood that will be milled right here in Ontario -- providing jobs, products and money to support Ontario's people, especially those who live in the north.

The students of Clarke and The Pines are visiting us on a particularly auspicious occasion. Today we are commemorating the passing of the era that made Orono Nursery possible.

The Canada/Ontario Forest Management Subsidiary Agreement began in 1978, and recently ended.

The FMSA was an \$82-million joint effort funded equally by the governments of Canada and Ontario. Its purpose was to assist the development of the forest industry, and to improve the economy of northern Ontario by strengthening the industry, which provides more than 160,000 jobs in this province.

This agreement signalled a new peak in federal-provincial co-operation. Our knowledge of clonal forestry has been enriched because of it. This greenhouse complex was built because of it.

Orono was the single largest project in the agreement involving applied research to solve specific forest management problems.

It was here at Orono that we first tested the feasibility of rooting juvenile cuttings to produce superior plants.

Here, these techniques passed from the experimental stage to a full-scale operation.

The technology is proving itself in field tests. It's now being used in our northern region, where mass production of rooted cuttings is under way. By the turn of the century, 35 per cent of the province's planting program for black spruce will be rooted cuttings. Only 15 years separates us from the plants you see here today, to the cloned forests of tomorrow.

So I think of this goodbye to the Forest Management Subsidiary Agreement as being a celebration of a great event.

And I'd like to thank the people who were the driving force behind this project. They are the members of the Canada/Ontario Joint Forestry Research Advisory Committee.

The committee had two co-chairmen, one representing the province; the other, the federal government. From the Ministry of Natural Resources, we had Al Peacock, executive co-ordinator of our Forest Resources Group and later, his successor to that post, Ken Arsmson. The co-chairman representing the federal government was Jim Cayford, director of the Great Lakes Forest Research Centre at Sault Ste. Marie.

The united and co-operative attitudes of the knowledgeable foresters who worked on this committee marked a milestone in federal-provincial collaboration. I would like to commend the committee members for their dedication, their vision, and their hard work.

The FMSA fostered a spirit of co-operation between the federal and provincial governments that has not ended with the conclusion of the agreement. Rather, it has been continued in a new agreement. The Canada-Ontario Forest Resource Development Agreement has many similar aims.

The Forest Management Subsidiary Agreement has ended. But the technology it spawned is alive and breathing in the thousands of trees growing in Ontario's forests -- now and for years to come.

And now, in our final salute to the FMSA, I would like Bill Bunting to join me here.

This plaque commemorates the FMSA and the building of this greenhouse complex, known as the W.R. Bunting Tree Improvement Centre.

Bill Bunting is the original superintendent here at Orono, and retired a year ago. I think it is fitting that the complex is named after one of the people who was involved, in the most practical way, with turning vegetative propagation from a concept to an achievement.

Congratulations, Bill. I would like to present you with a miniature of the permanent plaque as a memento of the Forest Management Subsidiary Agreement.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Government Publications

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REMARKS BY

TIM MILLARD
EXECUTIVE CO-ORDINATOR
OUTDOOR RECREATION GROUP
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

PETERBOROUGH SPONSORS OF DUCKS UNLIMITED

AT THE

HOLIDAY INN
PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO

MAY 13, 1986
9:15 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good evening. I am pleased to attend your first Peterborough Sponsors' dinner on behalf of the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Mary Mogford.

The Deputy could not be here tonight because of a previous engagement. She sends her regrets and asks me to wish you an enjoyable dinner.

You know, it is a treat for me to be present at a Ducks Unlimited banquet. I really enjoy them, but unlike you Peterborough Ducks Unlimited members, I can rarely afford the price of a table setting.

This has been especially true lately since a string of Ducks Unlimited auctions has tapped my budget dry. I don't know about you, but it seems that I get overly enthusiastic at those functions.

In fact, I could only attend tonight on one condition. I had to assure my office and homefront that this was only a dinner and that I would not come back with any more hunting decoys, paintings or wildlife doodads.

Of course, we are not only here tonight for a delicious dinner. We are here because we are concerned about wetlands -- one of Ontario's most valuable natural resources. And we are committed to conserving them.

My Minister, the Honourable Vincent Kerrio, has often told me that many people he comes in contact with still do not understand the value of wetlands. Both the Deputy and I have discovered the same thing.

People don't realize that wetlands provide important wildlife and waterfowl habitat. They don't know wetlands support other natural resources -- such as fur bearers, wood fiber and wild rice.

Nor do they know that wetlands purify water, often more effectively than any system man has created. Many non-hunting leisure activities -- from fishing and nature photography to camping and cottaging -- take focus on wetlands.

Like Ducks Unlimited, the Ministry of Natural Resources has been working hard to get these messages across. We are succeeding. But the most important message of all still needs expression.

Our wetlands are disappearing -- 80 per cent of the original 800,000 hectares in southern Ontario have been drained to further urban and agricultural development.

If we do not find a way to balance society's growing demands with the preservation of our wetlands, we will lose these irreplaceable treasure houses forever.

That is why the management work done by Ducks Unlimited is so vital. It is why the Ministry of Natural Resources is its financial and technical partner. And it is why, as a matter of fact, you are here.

It strikes me that we are all investors in an exciting venture. We are investing our time, money and concern for a very promising return: to create a society that understands that wetlands and man should, and must, co-exist.

Of course, achieving that goal will take a lot of work. But already, our investments are paying dividends.

I am thinking of the truly impressive achievements of Ducks Unlimited Canada in Ontario. For instance, between 1974 and 1985, this branch has secured and developed 196 wetlands.

What that means is that about 13,000 hectares of prime wetland have been preserved, created or enhanced to attract more ducks and other wetlands' species to the province. This branch of Ducks Unlimited has already spent \$15.4-million to achieve this. And I know another \$3.2-million is planned for more projects this year.

More than 80 per cent of these efforts have taken place on public or Crown land for which MNR is responsible. The Hullett Wildlife Management Area near Clinton and Tiny Marsh near Elmvale are two excellent examples of public land projects.

But there is also evidence of the rewards on your own doorstep. I am told there are about 35 to 40 projects under way throughout the Peterborough area right now.

I imagine you must be particularly excited about Ducks Unlimited's new small marsh program in this area. I think this is a marvellous way to restore the smaller two to eight-hectare wetlands. And two of the eight local projects are taking place on public land near Port Perry.

At the Nonguon Wildlife Management area, vegetation is being rejuvenated with special equipment called an earth fill dike and a water control structure. This will help to drain and control water levels.

The same is true at Scugog Island. Only there, more duck nesting habitat near the wetland's edge is being created with the help a marvellous device known as a cookie cutter.

These are excellent examples of the dividends I referred to earlier. They have come about because of your support and the support of other Ducks Unlimited sponsors across Ontario, and because of the tireless and determined efforts of Ducks Unlimited members.

I know Mr. Kerrio is very proud of the long-standing partnership between Ducks Unlimited and MNR, and the common interests we share. He has asked me to point out the value that MNR places on investing in our wetlands' future.

You may know, in 1984, the ministry began one of the most comprehensive evaluations of wetlands ever undertaken in North America. We expect to have all the significant wetlands in southern Ontario evaluated on their biological, social and economic value by the end of the year.

Right now, a summary of municipal comments on the proposed wetland's guidelines has been completed. This summary will be distributed to groups like Ducks Unlimited and the public by an interministerial committee which includes representatives from the Ministries of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Food, and Municipal Affairs.

The committee will be working, during the next twelve months, to address the six major concerns identified in the summary. This process will be a major step towards creating a draft policy for wetlands conservation in Ontario. It will put us in a strong position to manage the province's wetlands to meet both the present and long-term needs of Ontarians.

In addition to these legislative efforts, we have been working as Ducks Unlimited's financial partner. In 1983, we signed a five-year agreement with Ducks Unlimited Canada to develop 16,000 hectares of waterfowl habitat. Ducks Unlimited will spend \$15-million until 1987 to maintain, restore and create this habitat, while the ministry will contribute \$1-million.

We are also working very closely with Ducks Unlimited in a joint proposal to secure wetland habitat using funds from Wildlife Habitat Canada and other conservation groups. Our objective is to commit \$1-million a year to this project.

I think by pooling our efforts in this way we can make a tremendous impact on wetlands and waterfowl conservation. After all, what better way to achieve something than to have dedicated groups, with a common goal, working together.

What I am describing is really the co-operative relationship that has evolved between Ducks Unlimited and MNR over our long association. I know Mr. Kerrio and the Deputy Minister feel this relationship has a bright future, and will only strengthen with time.

Of course, the strength of this relationship depends on the commitment from individual citizens and sponsors, from people like you.

You have demonstrated you are concerned and can be counted on for support. I look forward to seeing you at the auctions and dinners to come because together, we can ensure that Ontario's wetlands remain a strong and productive resource for generations to come.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

CAZON

REMARKS BY

NR
S77 THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

HIKE ONTARIO CONFERENCE

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
GUELPH, ONTARIO

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1986
10 A.M.



As delivered by
Norm Richards
Director of Parks and Recreational Areas Branch
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good morning. It is a pleasure to attend your second annual meeting on behalf of the Honourable Vincent Kerrio, Minister of Natural Resources.

Mr. Kerrio sends his regrets that he could not be here today because he had a previous engagement. He asked me to pass on his best wishes for a productive and excellent conference, and says he looks forward to meeting with you in the future.

You know, Mr. Kerrio has a special respect for hikers. He lives in Niagara Falls at the southern edge of the Bruce Trail and has often hiked this portion of trail.

Mr. Kerrio also believes he could probably qualify as one of the most experienced hikers around -- think of the miles he's covered on the campaign trail alone.

I am afraid I cannot match that kind of experience. But I can speak to you as a fellow enthusiast. I have hiked in many of Ontario's most spectacular parks -- Algonquin, Sibley, Lake Superior, even along the coast of Hudson and James Bays in Polar Bear Provincial Park.

And I also feel privileged to live in north Burlington, next to the Bruce Trail. I hike this world class trail as often as I can, and I am a member of the Bruce Trail Association.

That is why I am excited about being here today. I understand your concerns and needs very well because I have a personal, as well as a professional, interest in the well-being of hiking.

We are lucky to have such a beautiful and diverse province. Ontario offers residents a gold mine of outdoors experiences, and tourists come from all over the world to explore our landscape.

The Ministry of Natural Resources manages 87 per cent of Ontario which is publicly owned -- or Crown land. And as stewards of this land, we are naturally interested in providing the best possible opportunities for recreation.

Hiking is a most pleasant way to experience what Ontario has to offer. It combines the appreciation of our scenic and natural heritage with physical activity.

I understand, right now, there are about 1.5-million day hikers in Ontario, and about 500,000 backpackers.

So it comes as no surprise that more people are discovering the peaceful rewards of hiking. And these people increasingly expect more variety in hiking opportunities.

That is why I was pleased to note that the theme of your conference is "Broadening Horizons."

Hike Ontario has always pursued innovative ways to meet the increased demands on hiking. In fact, many trails in Ontario would not exist today if volunteers from your eight associations had not cleared and maintained them.

Right now, you are working toward the ambitious goal of completing the Ontario portion of the National Trail. I know this is hard work. But it will be worth it when hikers from Manitoba to Quebec are united along this trail.

You have committed yourself to moving ahead, and hiking will benefit from it. I know Mr. Kerrio supports your efforts. And I would like to outline some of the ways the Ministry of Natural Resources shares your goal to broaden the horizons for hikers in Ontario.

The ministry is always looking for new ways to enhance hiking opportunities in our provincial parks. In 1975, 27 per cent of the visitors to our provincial parks did some hiking. In 1984, that figure increased to over 40 per cent of all visitors. These figures include all hikers -- from those who head out for a short jaunt to those who spend days on the trail.

To meet this demand, the ministry manages 14 long distance hiking trails and over 215 day use trails in its 220 provincial parks. These are some of the most spectacular routes -- and the real beauty is that these trails are located in every corner of the province.

There are good trails to be found in provincial parks from Frontenac, just northeast of Kingston, all the way to Sibley, near Thunder Bay.

We are also planning to regulate another 51 parks in the future. I would like to invite you to participate in the management planning for these new parks. Later today, Rick Phillips, of our Planning and Development Section, will outline some of the ways you can get involved in this process.

Of course, not everyone is interested in long-distance hiking. There are many provincial parks within a few hours of urban areas that provide shorter trails for families and the elderly.

To name a few -- Awenda, Bronte Creek, Petroglyphs, Forks of the Credit, Shorthills and Presqu'ile. We also provide trails for the disabled at Frontenac, Bronte Creek, Ouimet Canyon and Kakabeka Falls parks.

We are also very excited about news from a marketing study now being completed on Algonquin Park. It showed that about 54 per cent of all visitors to the park participated in some form of hiking in 1985.

Algonquin has some excellent hiking. But the study indicated that we can do more! We can build upon the existing day-use and overnight trails to create a higher quality, more diverse hiking system. This system would be comparable to the world class canoe route system that crisscrosses the park.

We intend to follow the studies lead and broaden our horizons for hiking in Algonquin. The 71 kilometre Western Uplands Hiking Trail and the 35 kilometre Highland Trail will be our first enhancement efforts. Soon, other trails will follow.

But the ministry does not only manage trails in provincial parks. We are also responsible for trails on Crown land. For instance, we manage trails near Woodstock, Sutton, and Parry Sound. These trails and others, located in southern Ontario, provide hiking opportunities close to where most Ontarians live.

Portions of Crown land can be made available to trail associations through land use permits. These permits can give you exclusive control of the trails so you can protect and manage the investment you put into them.

This brings me to an important message. As you can see, the Ministry of Natural Resources is very active in expanding and diversifying hiking in Ontario. But our efforts do not stop there.

Right now we are involved in a very special development project -- one which Mr. Kerrio is very excited about. We will be fulfilling our commitment to complete the chain of parks along the Niagara Escarpment.

I do not have to tell you how valuable this area is, or how important it is to build upon the breathtaking allure of the Bruce Trail.

There are currently 105 provincial parks and conservation areas along the Escarpment which complement the Trail, and play a special role in educating visitors about the area. But the chain of parks is not complete.

Although almost 34,000 hectares of this land has been purchased since the 1960s, a remaining 6,100 hectares is needed to finish the job.

As you may know, on April 3, Mr. Kerrio announced the Ontario government will commit \$25-million to acquire the necessary properties.

Most of this land is owned by about 700 private landowners. The Ministry of Government Services and several conservation authorities will negotiate with willing owners to buy properties at fair market value. If an owner does not wish to discuss selling, then we will not pursue the matter any further.

And we are already off to a good start. Ten properties have been acquired. And our very first acquisition -- 15 hectares of land to add to the Dundas Valley Conservation area near Hamilton -- was donated to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority by its owners.

The ministry is not alone in this process. We are working very closely with other government ministries and non-government organizations. One group, I am proud to say, is the Bruce Trail Association.

The ministry and the Association have, over the years, established a partnership to protect and manage property that is part of the Trail. This has been a good working relationship combining the ministry's financial and technical support with the dedication of your members to maintain the Trail.

This new acquisition initiative will make our partnership even stronger. The ministry will be giving \$40,000 to the Bruce Trail Association.

This funding will assist the Association with the technical aspects of implementing the Niagara Escarpment Land Acquisition program. I think that our joint efforts will make hiking along the Escarpment better than ever before.

Another partner is the Ontario Heritage Foundation. This group, mainly under the auspices of the National Heritage League, brings government and non-government associations together to educate private landowners about the value of protecting our natural heritage.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation does excellent work in promoting private stewardship -- the concept that private landowners should play a role in retaining their properties as close to their natural state as possible to protect natural areas for future generations.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation will act as the bankers in the Escarpment acquisition plan. Every year for the next 10 years, \$2-million will be allocated to the Foundation to secure the available properties.

Another half-million-dollars will be used annually by the Foundation for research into cultural properties, for promotion and to erect cairns.

I think we have terrific teamwork on this project. There is really no better way to accomplish a plan like this than to have people with similar goals working together.

The co-operative relationship that Hike Ontario and the ministry share is an example of how effective co-operation can be. In fact, if you look back nearly 10 years to the Ontario Trails Advisory Council Report, it is clear that trails associations and government have together accomplished a great deal.

The Trails Council Report provided a well-prepared analysis of the problems facing trail associations at that time. This report and its recommendations was useful to the ministry in planning our recreational base.

A lot has happened since the report. I know it was a happy day for you when the Occupiers' Liability Act and the Trespass to Property Act were enacted by the Attorney General. These were important recommendations that you identified as necessary to secure public access to private lands.

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Throughout my remarks, I have touched on examples of how the ministry has responded to the concerns expressed in the report. Let me go over some of them briefly.

There are more places to hike because of the expanded provincial parks system, trails on Crown lands, county forests, conservation areas and trails on private lands.

These increased opportunities are made possible through new legislation, land use permits, and greater co-operation between government and non-government organizations.

Almost every hiker can find hiking that meets their needs. For example, there is something for the hiker looking for a day trip, long distance trails, special trails for the handicapped, a route close to home or one to the far north.

The land acquisition project along the Niagara Escarpment will mean more access to hiking in southern Ontario, and will expand the already popular Bruce Trail.

Of course, we try very hard to accomplish all of our goals. As you can see, we very often succeed. There are times, however, when some of our aspirations exceed our grasp.

As a recommendation of the Trails Council Report, the ministry investigated acquiring some abandoned rail lines in conjunction with the Ministries of Transportation and Communications, and Tourism and Recreation.

Regrettably, after investigation, the government has decided not to pursue this option on a comprehensive basis. However, this should not discourage you from seeking methods of utilizing those lands on your own.

The lands are now available to municipalities. I would suggest approaching these local governments to propose trail expansion in their areas.

Let me conclude by repeating what I said earlier -- that we are lucky to be hikers in Ontario today. We have wonderful hiking opportunities in our own backyards. Living here also puts us in the neighborhood of some of the best hiking in North America.

Think of the rugged, richly diverse parks at the national level. Pukaskwa -- along the north shore of Lake Superior -- is a prime example of the northern frontier preserved within our boundaries.

Then think of the contribution you will be making to the hiking community when you complete the Ontario portion of the National Trail. What a joy when a hiker can set out from Manitoba, cross the path that is the product of your handiwork, and trek all the way to the Quebec border.

Finally, think of our good fortune to share the continent on which the magnificent Appalachian Trail is built. This trail links Maine to Georgia through 14 States, across almost 90 per cent publicly owned lands.

I think it is noteworthy that this trail exists because of a partnership formed between non-government and government interests more than 60 years ago. What they have achieved is really an inspiration to anyone concerned for the fate of hiking in a rapidly developing society.

When you think about it, partnership is really the basis on which we must build the opportunities for tomorrow's hiker. From our past success and our present endeavors, I am very optimistic about the challenges to come.

I can see that working together, we can apply our imaginations and experience to meet these challenges. And I know that there is a bright future for trails development and for broadening the horizons for hikers in Ontario.

I look forward to working with you because together we can accomplish a great deal.

Thank you, and happy hiking!



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY - S77

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

CANADIAN MASONRY CONFERENCE
ANNUAL MEETING LUNCHEON

AT THE

SHERATON-BROCK HOTEL
NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO

MAY 23, 1986
12:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good afternoon! I want to extend special greetings to our out-of-province visitors here today. Westerners, easterners, and fellow Ontarians alike, I welcome all of you to my home region of Niagara. As you all know, this area is world-renowned for its scenic beauty, historic sites, fruit, and wine.

Although it is too early in the season to enjoy the many kinds of fruit we grow here, you can always enjoy our wine.

I'm sure that many of you here today make your own wine using the same methods your parents and your grandparents used before you. Homemade wine is very special -- there's no question about it.

But like so many other things in our society, winemaking has become a highly specialized industry whose competitiveness is based not so much on the traditions of the past, but on the science and technology of today and the future.

These new technologies are rapidly changing society at every level imaginable.

It certainly affects your industry. You know as well as anyone that it is no longer acceptable to just maintain your position in the market -- one must strive to be ahead of the competition.

Today I want to tell you some good news about the new directions the government is taking to enhance Ontario's economy and to stay ahead of the competition. These plans are very important to me as Minister of Natural Resources, and are certainly very important to you as members of a resource-based industry.

I personally share your concerns. Before joining politics, I was involved in the construction industry in Ontario for many years as a contractor.

Like you, I am very concerned about future supplies of aggregate for the province of Ontario. Mineral aggregates are non-renewable resources that are vital to our economy. In 1985, for example, approximately 120 million tonnes, or more than 14 tonnes of mineral aggregate for each person in Ontario, were used in this province.

Although potential reserves exist in many parts of the province, it is vital to have material as near to construction sites as possible. As you know, the cost of transporting aggregate is extremely high. The further we haul our material, the higher our costs climb.

To ensure that aggregate sources close to markets are protected, our government recently released the Mineral Aggregate Resource Policy Statement. This statement, also known as MARP, has a basis in the Provincial Planning Act. Let me explain the significance of this policy statement.

Policy statements are formal public expressions of the province's interest in planning matters that extend beyond local municipal boundaries. They are designed to provide a broad provincial framework for municipalities preparing official plans and zoning by-laws.

MARP establishes mineral aggregate resources as a matter of provincial interest. It ensures their long-term availability at reasonable costs. And it aims to protect people and the environment from the adverse effects of extraction.

In other words, municipalities must ensure that where possible, long-term development does not occur over deposits before they are removed. And, despite the public's concern about pits and quarries, municipalities must consider pits and quarries in their planning.

MARP demonstrates how closely your industry and my ministry are linked. The management of aggregate resources is our common concern. But there are other areas of resource management which affect you -- like forestry and mining.

In northern Ontario, expansions of pulp and paper mills and mining plants provide major construction opportunities that would not occur otherwise. Opportunities for industries like yours. When the resource industries cut back production, your business slows down.

On the other hand, when paper and mining products are in great demand, your industry enjoys a boom that brings construction of roads, houses, shopping centres, and everything else that people need.

Indeed, Ontario's economy is historically one that is based on natural resources. That explains why Canadians have been described as "hewers of wood and drawers of water". Our natural resources -- mineral aggregates, fisheries, wildlife, and our forests -- fuel our economy.

How my ministry manages these resources affects your group and many others like you. It is a big responsibility which the government of Premier David Peterson takes seriously. And it is a job we cannot do alone. That is why we are committed to a policy of openness, information sharing, and public participation.

In the year that I have been Minister of Natural Resources, I have undertaken a number of initiatives to increase public involvement in decisions affecting how our resources are managed.

The Ontario provincial auditor's report on forest management and my ministry's response to the auditor's report were released. Never before have these reports been made available to the public in full.

And I initiated a comprehensive audit of this province's forest resources, which is being conducted by Dean Gordon Baskerville, of the University of New Brunswick. The results of this audit will be made public after I receive it in mid-summer.

I know Ontarians want to be involved, and have a say in the matters that will affect them now and in the future.

Public involvement and awareness is critical now more than ever, because our forests are at a turning point. Although we currently have a surplus of wood, we want to avoid long term shortages.

So my ministry is implementing a new policy of forest management that will increase production on prime sites by using genetically improved seed and seedlings.

We will continue to build our traditional resources and manufacturing sectors -- and at the same time, support industries like yours -- well into the 21st century. But we must master the new standards of a world economy. We face intense competition as we market our services, knowledge, information and new technology.

Over the next decade, Ontario must take steps to ensure its place as a world-class society of the 21st century.

We must set our horizons beyond Canada's borders, adapt our institutions, and utilize fully the ingenuity and skills of our people.

Our competition won't be waiting for us. In fact, our competition is not only getting better, but is growing in numbers. Newly industrialized countries are becoming increasingly competitive with us because they apply new technologies right from the very start, and they have access to inexpensive labor. And, like us, the developed countries are creating new industries based on skills, knowledge, and innovative use of rapid advancements in science and technology.

We certainly have the potential to excel. Over the past 12 months, 179,000 jobs have been created in Ontario. The first three months of this year saw the creation of 73,000 new jobs.

Increased economic activity has driven the unemployment rate down to 6.8 per cent, the lowest in Canada.

The masonry industry benefits directly from this kind of growth. Housing starts in the province rose to an annual rate of 78,000 in the fourth quarter of 1985, the highest rate in more than seven years. That robust trend has continued in the early months of this year. In urban areas, housing starts from January to March were 66.5 per cent higher than in the same period of 1985.

One thing we must do to compete is expand our markets abroad. Later this year, Premier Peterson will lead a major government mission, involving senior business and labor leaders, to the Pacific Rim.

A key initiative will be undertaken to double food exports to the Pacific Rim. We will give farmers and food processors marketing assistance so they may build competitive bases in these new and expanding markets.

Programs will also be put in place to advance modern technology in other primary industries, including funding to increase the technological development and export potential of two rapidly emerging industries -- remote sensing, and computerized mapping.

My ministry is putting Ontario on the map as a world leader in remote sensing -- a sophisticated technology that uses sensors on satellites and airplanes to produce images of the earth's surface by recording energy coming from the earth.

In comparison to difficult on-site measurements made by people, remote sensing is accurate, economical, and efficient. It can be used for such things as specialized map-making, and forestry and land planning.

The Ontario Centre for Remote Sensing, or OCRS, works closely with private industry to promote and develop this technology. Last year OCRS representatives travelled to the University of Peking where they gave an intensive training course in computer analysis of satellite data as part of a Canadian International Development Agency project. Our people have excellent relations with the Chinese which will give our private industry in this field a competitive edge.

You have heard it said that we are entering an Information Age. Well, remote sensing is one aspect of computer applications that will allow us to produce and share valuable information that will make us more productive and efficient. Ontario is a world leader in another related field -- computerized mapping.

Just last week I announced in the Legislature that my ministry will proceed with a two-year project -- involving an investment of \$4.2-million a year -- to test how computer recorded information can be applied to upgrade our present mapping system.

Our goal is to establish a digital topographic data base for land-related uses in the province.

Cities and counties will use this state-of-the-art technology to monitor such things as land ownership, zoning, land use and assessment data. They will use computerized maps to process building permits, prepare official plans, record variances and severances, and plan municipal services.

Besides making municipal operations faster and more efficient, computer maps have great provincewide potential for everything from police calls to flood control and forest fire prevention. Even the route of a speeding ambulance could be computer guided -- safely providing right-of-way through intersections and around traffic jams.

This new technology means the end of using transparent overlays in order to determine separately the slope, terrain, cultural features, geology, drainage, and streets of any area. It will eliminate the problem of differing scales from one map to another. You would be able to call up by computer any combination of themes in order to plan or implement any design.

Remote sensing and computerized maps will eliminate duplication of data bases and will give Ontario the ability to move firmly and competitively into the Information Age.

Earlier I said I wanted to tell you some good news about the new directions we are taking to enhance Ontario's economy. And I have told you about some recent advancements in protecting aggregate deposits, remote sensing, and computer mapping. Now I want to tell you about developments you can expect soon that will directly help the masonry industry.

The Government of Ontario is funding three important studies, the results of which will be available to you by the end of this year.

The study of the clay industry in Ontario is testing new materials and their uses in producing various products, including dinnerware, ceramic tiles, drainage tiles, and of course, bricks. The study of the limestone industry is examining the use of limestone in concrete, Portland cement, metallurgical stone, and aggregate. In addition, the Ontario Geological Survey is doing an inventory of the quality and quantity of clay and limestone deposits.

These studies will provide you with an overview of the industrial minerals industry in Ontario as well as an enhanced perspective on national trends.

This kind of research and development supplies industry experts like yourselves with the information you need to develop and expand. It will provide you with vital information about new products, processing techniques, materials, and the locations of future materials.

One of the most prominent examples of new products developed by your industry will be used on the proposed Canadian chancellery in Washington. This building will be faced with limestone that is quarried, cut, and finished in Ontario.

The future looks good for your industry. You will have a highly visible sales promotion right in the American capital -- I trust it will lead to further contracts as well as future opportunities with American builders!

The world economy is in an era of transition. Ontario enters this period with considerable strengths because our economy emerged lean and strong after a decade in which the world economy experienced significant upheaval.

Ontario will contribute responsibly to the overall good of the nation by playing a constructive, leading role in building a stronger Canada with a bright future for all Canadians.

Part of that role in building a strong nation will be played by you who are gathered here today. My ministry, and the Government of Ontario, wish you all the best as you continue to thrive and grow.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

CANADIAN WILDLIFE FEDERATION
ANNUAL MEETING

AT THE

DELTA HOTEL
OTTAWA

MAY 28, 1986
6:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

I'm pleased to be the one who gets to welcome your conference to Ontario. I hope all of you -- especially those who come from other parts of Canada -- enjoy your time here in Ottawa.

By way of welcome, I guess I'm entitled to give you a commercial on this province. Ontario has been blessed with spectacular natural resources. And I can really get wound up about my ministry's renewable resource programs.

But you told me I had 20 minutes. That's not enough time for a proper commercial on Ontario.

So, with that in mind, I'll limit my comments to a discussion of co-management of natural resources. That's a topic that should interest every provincial and national organization that deals with conservation.

What is co-management? I see it as co-operative management, something that involves governments and the public.

No one group can do it all alone. The only way to successfully improve our renewable resources is to establish a willing and enthusiastic co-operation between interested groups and individuals and governments.

Non-government organizations play a key role in the success of co-management. That, of course, includes those of you in the Canadian Wildlife Federation, your member organizations, and your individual members.

When I attended the Wildlife Colloquium here earlier this month, the need for more co-management came out loud and clear. Again and again, we were told that we need more habitat enhancement, we need more funds. Co-operation with non-government organizations is essential to getting more habitat enhancement and more funding.

I have two strong reasons for supporting co-management.

First of all, I am a resource user, and have been for a long time. When I was young, I used to tag along with my father on his trapline in the Niagara Peninsula. When I was older, I fished for black bass near Turkey Point on Lake Erie.

As an adult, I maintained my interest in the outdoors. I've paddled and fished my way through most of Ontario. I've caught Pacific salmon both in Lake Ontario and the Pacific Ocean. I've hunted goose and moose in northern Ontario, and deer in B.C.

That's why I take a personal interest in our fish and wildlife resources. I want to see our resources enhanced and wisely used.

My second reason for supporting co-management is professional. About a year ago, I became a resource manager. And believe me, doing this job has given me a whole new outlook on our renewable resources.

I found there are a lot of people out there who want to use our resources, and in a variety of ways. And I quickly realized that I have to make some tough decisions about how those resources are going to be used.

But I was pleased to discover that many groups want to co-operate with us. That want to put something back into the resource. They don't just restrict themselves to asking for their share of the resource.

In short, they don't want to be just resource users. They want to be resource managers as well. That is the starting point for co-management.

Many of these groups are non-government organizations. At the Ministry of Natural Resources, we are working co-operatively with a number of these groups. We have programs involving endangered species and research funding, as well as agreements that tackle the basic issue of funding for wildlife and habitat improvement programs.

In fact, I will be signing an agreement with Ducks Unlimited in the near future to fund the securing of important wetlands. Wildlife Habitat Canada will also contribute funds. So you can see how co-management can multiply a commitment of government dollars into a much larger sum of needed dollars. As I mentioned earlier, there's no doubt that our most active partners in co-management are the provincial affiliate of the CWF, as well as the national organization. We know we can work well with you. After all, we've been doing it for years.

When I became Minister, I was pleased to learn that we work closely with the Canadian Wildlife Federation in two major wildlife education programs.

I am vitally committed to education as an integral part of our day-to-day responsibilities. The education of our young people about the proper management and use of our natural resources is an investment we make. We can't afford not to make it.

I enjoy working with children. In April, my wildlife branch invited me to participate in National Wildlife Week in Ontario. I unveiled a new plaque near the ministry's Queen's Park office that draws attention to urban wildlife. And I had a chance to talk to a class of grade five students about wildlife.

In Ontario that makes me a bit player in National Wildlife Week. I talked to 30 children. During that same week, my staff talked to 25,000 children. That's more than 800 classroom appearances across Ontario.

We used the theme established for National Wildlife Week and materials sent out by the CWF. When we saw that endangered species were a part of your kit, we added our own poster on endangered species in Ontario. And we mailed the whole package out to every grade four, five and six teacher in the province.

My ministry also participates with the CWF in an exciting new educational program -- Project WILD. It's a program that fits in almost anywhere in the school curriculum, not just in a science class.

In Ontario, we have been working on Project WILD for almost a year. Since the Ministry of Education approved use of the program in May 1985, we have trained 150 leaders from our staff and from Ontario's teaching profession. Those leaders, in turn, have trained over 800 teachers to use the material.

The enthusiasm is growing. I have heard that some experienced teachers involved with Project WILD are saying the materials are the best they have ever seen.

These co-operative wildlife educational programs present children with the kind of realistic and objective material they need. They can make up their own minds about the attitude they will take toward wildlife.

Some of them, unfortunately, will never give much thought to wildlife. Others will react differently. Our responsibility is to give them information, facts that make them aware of wildlife and encourage them to care.

Our goal, a goal that is also obvious in Project WILD, is to teach young people to think about wildlife, not to think about wildlife. We're doing good work together. Let's keep it up in the future.

Before I change topics, I'd like to mention another co-operative education project we are running. This one is with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Working with them, my wildlife branch has developed an educational program for 4-H clubs.

This project encourages future farmers to be aware of the potential for wildlife on their land. It points out ways that wildlife habitat can be improved without disrupting the agricultural goals of the 4-H club members.

This wildlife education program is, I believe, a first in 4-H for Canada. When you consider how important agriculture is in this country, I think it's an idea that could be well-used in co-operative programs across the country.

There are many other examples of co-management, involving the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Ontario's provincial CWF affiliate and Ontario's largest provincial conservation organization.

The OFAH and my ministry have a long history of co-operative projects. Things really got started about 30 years ago with hunter safety training.

Over the years, hunter safety training has continued to develop. Just last year, the new version of our Hunter Safety Training manual appeared. It's a phenomenal book, based on literature that was originally introduced in Alberta.

It's clearly a joint project, with the responsibilities for production and distribution divided between the two organizations. The profits from the sale of this best-seller go into improving hunter safety instruction.

We have also worked with the OFAH in re-introducing wild turkeys to Ontario. The sportsmen provide most of the funds needed to bring the turkeys to Ontario. They also help monitor them in their new homes.

Besides the obvious benefits, I've noticed that co-management also creates better communications between non-government organizations and government.

For example, when we deal with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, we know we are hearing the voice of an old, true friend. Because we work together, we know how to approach each other.

Recently, we held a series of public meetings on a resident angling licence. Both the OFAH and the CWF gave us the strongest support. I want to thank you for that support. I appreciate it.

And I am confident your return for that support will be more than just my thanks. I know that the CWF is doing a nation-wide survey of the freshwater sports fishery. This covers the social and economic importance of sport fishing, as well as the biological management of fisheries.

If we have a resident fishing licence, Ontario will have better data on how people use our sports fishery. We'll finally be able to tell you just how socially and economically important our sports fishery is.

Speaking of our fisheries, I know you're going to be spending a full day on Indian peoples' fishing rights during this conference. As you know, Ontario is participating in negotiations toward an Indian Fishing Agreement.

Because we have open communications, you will be able to discuss what Ontario is doing in this field. My staff has met with both the OFAH and the CWF to discuss our plans and procedures. I know that all of us want to make progress on this very important matter.

I look forward to continuing communication on this topic and on other topics of mutual interest. As I said before, good communications about management is one of the benefits of co-management.

In Ontario, co-management is a reality. If you ask Rick Morgan or Ken Lounsbury, they are sure to tell you that the role of the OFAH has been changing in the last few years. And we'll all agree that it's a change for the better.

I think the co-management programs that we have on the go in Ontario are the basic cause of that change. I've already mentioned Hunter Safety Education and the wild turkey re-introduction as examples.

Ontario has two public involvement programs that are outstanding examples of our co-management -- the Community Fisheries Involvement Program (CFIP) and the Community Wildlife Involvement Program (CWIP).

I'm sure most of you by now are familiar with both CFIP and CWIP.

CFIP is directed toward fisheries improvements. It has been running for several years, providing supplies and equipment to volunteer workers to improve our fisheries.

We have a broad spectrum of groups involved. We have projects going that vary from stream habitat improvement to pond culture for walleye. In 1985-86, my ministry approved 130 projects, bringing the total for four years to 300. In the past fiscal year, we spent \$300,000 on equipment and materials for those projects. We calculate the value of all the projects -- including the voluntary labor the groups offer -- at \$2-million. That's a pretty good return on our investment.

Our CWIP program deals with wildlife, and I believe it is unique in Canada. Like CFIP, CWIP allows individuals and groups to get directly involved with wildlife. They volunteer their labor and my ministry provides funding for materials and equipment.

CWIP also ties into Project WILD, National Wildlife Week and our new 4-H project. If the interest generated by these programs encourages young people to take an active interest in wildlife, then CWIP can make it possible for them to DO something.

Let me give you a few examples of what we mean in Ontario by "doing something" for wildlife. In the first six months of our operation of CWIP, we funded 84 projects that were completed by March 1986.

These projects involved 4,600 participants working directly with wildlife. We have a great variety of participating groups, including sportsmen's clubs, naturalists' groups, cottagers' associations, landowners, trappers, scouts, guides, 4-H groups, students and senior citizens.

Together, their volunteer labor totalled more than 30,000 hours -- and that in only six months.

I am pleased to say that one of the outstanding groups involved in CWIP last year is a member of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. The Oxford Fish and Game Protection Association was the first winner of the CWIP trophy for their exceptional contributions.

Equally important, our CWIP projects helped wildlife. In those first six months, CWIP supported the construction of 3,400 nesting boxes, the construction of structures for the raising of 800 pheasants, the improvement of 150 hectares of habitat, the building of 15 water control structures and seven viewing stations, to name a few.

This is co-management, and it works. It is getting people directly involved with management. It helps create a sense of stewardship for renewable resources. That sense of stewardship is important. It's the essence of conservation.

That's what I see as the long-term benefit of co-management. In the short term, it can help us with funding for habitat enhancement or money for research. It can help us make the most effective use of our management dollars. But most important, co-management involves a great many people.

With co-management, it's no longer possible to say it's somebody else's job to look after our renewable resources. It's not. It's a shared responsibility. All of us have to shoulder some of it.

In the next two days, I know that shared responsibility will never be far from your minds. Your discussion of the North American Waterfowl Plan should emphasize the importance of the part that non-government organizations will play in co-management.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my best wishes to the entire CWF on its 25th anniversary. May you continue to grow in size and importance.



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REMARKS BY

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THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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AT THE

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES GEOMETRES
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
OPENING OF THE TECHNICAL SESSIONS

SHERATON CENTRE
TORONTO, ONTARIO

MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986
1:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good afternoon everyone. Welcome to the opening of the technical sessions of this, the eighteenth Congress of the International Association of Surveyors.

There are some people who would say we've learned all we need to learn about the earth -- that there are no new worlds left to conquer on this world. I say -- we've barely scratched the surface.

You are proof of that. You come here from all four corners of the earth, bringing your knowledge and enthusiasm to this Congress. And for the next 10 days your colleagues will tell you about the latest developments in your profession.

You'll be facing an avalanche of information -- about geodetic surveying, remote sensing, global positioning systems. It will be easy to get lost in this maze of words -- the mass of technical data -- the language peculiar to your profession.

In the midst of all these goings-on, one can so easily lose sight of what these developments really mean in people's lives.

So I am not here to talk to you about geodetic computations, or horizontal control, or triangulation. For one thing, I could never hope to match your technical expertise.

Rather, I want to talk about concepts. I want to tell you how I perceive your profession as one embarking on new paths that will benefit mankind. I give you my point of view as a layman who admires your skill.

But I also want to give you my impressions as a policy-maker. I want to tell you how I perceive your future role as managers -- managers of land-related information.

This new role has tremendous implications -- for government, for business, for anyone who uses land -- and we all use land.

I will begin by telling you how I, as a layman, see surveying in the twentieth century.

Surveying, to me, is not just a means of finding out where a particular point is on the face of the earth. To me it represents the realm of possibility -- possibilities of enormous magnitude.

I believe your profession is standing on the brink of an epoch that will see the re-emergence of the surveyor as a catalyst in history. They were surveyors who calculated the dimensions of the Great Pyramid -- who determined the true shape of the earth -- who opened up the New World -- who influenced history.

You, the surveyors, are about to unlock the doorway to a new age -- the information age. You hold the key to that door, and that key is called "technology".

The world is undergoing a massive transformation. We are living in the days of advanced industrial society. Ours is a society based increasingly on the production and sharing of information.

And you, the surveyors, will be among the most important people involved in producing and managing that information -- specifically, land-related information.

The ways in which we use land affects the quality of our lives -- where we live, work and play. We like to believe we have mastered nature; that we're in control of our surroundings.

Yet great cities have been built by man, only to fall to the forces of nature -- witness the landslides of Hong Kong, the earthquakes of Italy and Mexico, even the disappearance of Pompeii. Here in Ontario, many parts of this very city were devastated by Hurricane Hazel in 1954.

We must learn how to build our homes and livelihoods to exist in harmony with the land, not in conflict with it. And with your skills, we can harness the knowledge we need to understand how to live on this earth.

You will give us this knowledge -- with the new technology. You will do it with the aid of satellites such as LANDSAT and SPOT. You will do it with remote sensors and automated mapping. You will do it with computers.

Digitized mapping is the way of the future. The surveyor's work will form the basis of a storehouse of knowledge about our lands and resources that will determine everything from where we place our cities, to when we cut our trees, to how we design our communications lines. As a layman, I am in awe of your potential contribution to this new society.

The experts tell me this is how it will work: First we create a computerized geographic referencing system. This establishes a means, common to all users of the system, to identify any geographical location.

The next step is the creation of topographic information in digitized, or computerized, form. Basic maps are drawn. They are the important foundation on which the whole system rests. And they in turn can be overlaid with other themes, as other users add their data to the base. Information can be added, extracted and updated very easily.

Digitized land-related information will be used in thousands of ways. I'd like to suggest a few examples:

- It will help us plan traffic routes so people will spend less time getting from one place to another -- and governments can spend less money building roads.
- It will help us decide where to place radio repeater stations so natural obstacles won't interfere with their operation.
- It will help us plot health statistics and identify links between disease and environmental conditions.

Digitized land-related information will change our lives. With this information literally at our fingertips, the term "getting the lay of the land" will take on a depth of meaning far beyond the original expression.

Here's an illustration of digitized mapping in practice. A fire has been reported in a downtown building at 5 p.m. on a weekday. Before they even arrive on the scene, the firefighters will check a computer.

- Municipal authorities, using information obtained from building permits, will have put in data on what the building is made of and where its doorways, emergency exits and sprinkler systems are located.

- The street map will pinpoint the location of the building and the most direct route to get there.
- Police can report on rush hour traffic volume and flow, and calculate which is the quickest route to the scene.
- A meteorological check will indicate weather conditions and wind direction.
- Firefighters will arrive at the scene already knowing where to find water mains, gas lines and fire hydrants.

Digitized mapping means the two-dimensional, the paper map as we know it will go the way of Gunter's chain and the Rochon micrometer.

It means changes so radical in map-making, we'll be re-defining what maps are and how they're used.

Yet our children will take this enormous storehouse of information for granted, just as our generation does the color television, the frost-free refrigerator and the electronic calculator.

Digitized mapping will revolutionize the next generation's literacy and communications abilities. Its impact on society will be akin to that of the invention of the printing press, which brought the printed word and maps -- and hence the opportunity to learn about their world -- to the masses.

The shift to the new technology presents you with an enormous challenge. In all facets of the survey profession -- photogrammetry, hydrography, geodetic surveying, remote sensing, and cartography, to name a few -- a great upheaval is taking place.

Some of you may perceive this as an opportunity. Others may see it as a threat. Either way, digitized mapping is on its way to changing all our conventions about how we relate to the land.

Now I want to tell you how I, as a policy-maker, see digitized mapping and its role here in my jurisdiction, the Province of Ontario.

First let me set the scene by acquainting you with our geography and the particular ministry I lead, the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Ontario is only one of the 10 provinces and two territories that make up Canada. The vastness of this province -- most of it sparsely inhabited -- is difficult to grasp, even for those of us who live here.

Ontario is two-thirds the size of Western Europe. Yet its population is a mere nine million and mostly concentrated in the south.

Back in 1783, Ontario's first surveyors were charged with setting out townships along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River and the Bay of Quinte. To me, it is significant that it is from this time that we date the birth of our province.

Those surveyors literally broke new ground, exploring lands previously unseen by Europeans.

The north of the province remained largely uncharted until the beginning of this century, when the Ontario government sent out 10 exploration parties. Their hardships and adventures must have been unparalleled -- it was nothing to spend a month getting to and from the survey.

That the Government of Ontario took surveying seriously is evidenced by a 1798 act of the Legislature of Upper Canada, as Ontario was then called. The damage or removal of surveyors' monuments was regarded by the law as a felony punishable by death.

I'm sure the practising surveyor today, coming upon a site from which a monument had been, shall we say, souvenired, would agree that the old colonial penalty was entirely appropriate!

Today, the Ministry of Natural Resources has the responsibility of surveying and mapping the province.

This ministry is caretaker of that 90 per cent of lands in Ontario which are Crown, or publicly owned, lands.

As the name of our ministry implies, we are responsible for this province's natural resources. Those responsibilities include managing wildlife, fish, forests, water resources, outdoor recreation and provincial parks.

We must respond to many people's needs -- hunters, fishermen, campers, naturalists, fishermen, the timber industry, tourist outfitters and many others.

Added to that, we have a population concentrated in a limited area in the south, while the vast lands of the north are sparsely populated.

So you see we have many demands placed on our resources.

Our aim at the Ministry of Natural Resources is to maintain a balance among these competing demands on our resources, and at the same time carefully manage them for the future.

Our philosophy is to share the resources as widely as possible among as many users as possible, to the maximum benefit of all. And in planning any project, large or small, we consult with all those users who might be affected by our actions.

Digitized mapping can help the Ministry of Natural Resources do this easier, faster, and with less effort.

For example, if we want to build or remove a dam, we can overlay the basic topographic map with any combination of themes. Using current and predicted information, we will be able to see at a glance how the structure will affect the wildlife, the forest, the recreation and industry of the surrounding area.

Instantly, we'll be able to see how the dam will affect other activities not directly associated with our responsibilities, too. Would the structure affect the nearby highway? What about local property owners? How will it influence the pollution controls already in place? Does anyone have mining claims in the area? Will it affect electrical or communications lines?

Imagine if all land use planners participated in this information system. We really could come to live in harmony with our environment.

As I mentioned earlier, the key to the new information age is technology. The Government of Ontario has seen the trend, recognizes its impact, and is preparing for it.

The government has created a Premier's Council to establish Ontario on the leading edge of economic and technological innovation.

A \$1-billion Special Technology Fund will, over the next decade, encourage scientific and technological research in the private sector and post-secondary institutions. It will stimulate joint ventures in strategic fields.

My ministry is taking advantage of this fund to back new programs to aid the development of the technology and export potential of remote sensing and computerized base mapping.

In a related area, as Minister of Natural Resources, the activities of the Ontario Centre for Remote Sensing fall within my jurisdiction. I am very proud of its accomplishments.

The business of remote sensing, like yours, involves information-generating technology.

The Centre has very close ties to private remote sensing companies. I think it is a prime example of how government can help the private sector cultivate new business.

Last year the Centre established two committees. One represents the government view on remote sensing applications to government programs. We too face a challenge in absorbing the new technology.

The second committee is an industrial advisory group which pools the experience of approximately 20 Ontario remote sensing companies. The committee advises the Centre where to aim its research and development work in order to give companies the new technology they need. It also helps the Centre transfer new techniques to companies when these techniques are ready for commercial use.

The committee has another very important role. It recommends the ground rules for co-operation between the Centre and Ontario companies in winning and completing international remote sensing contracts.

The Ontario Centre for Remote Sensing is a pioneer in computer software for mapping from remote sensing data. The Centre has also developed software for combining data from existing maps with remote sensing analysis. One of the Centre's most challenging projects in the next few years will be to develop ways of integrating remote sensing data with the ministry's geographic information system.

Creating a geographic information system on such a broad scale is an extremely complex, elaborate and expensive procedure. It will not happen overnight. Indeed, my ministry began developing this system as far back as 1974, a scant two years after the launching of the first LANDSAT satellite.

But once in place, this information system will have incalculable benefits for years to come.

On the subject of computerized base mapping, two weeks ago I announced in our provincial legislature that the Ministry of Natural Resources will be spending almost \$8.5-million over the next two years to test applications of our digitized mapping system.

We will start in the north, producing 600 digitized Ontario Basic Maps each year.

This work will be done in partnership with the private mapping industry of this province. Ontario, incidentally, is the only jurisdiction in Canada that does not do its map-making in-house -- it is all contracted out to the private sector.

We are also working on pilot projects with several municipalities to help them establish a common data base for land-related information systems. Those projects will be completed next year.

Digital information systems will create jobs. They will support an open government by allowing the public to participate in forming public policy by giving them access to a vast storehouse of information.

It also promises to make Ontario a leader in a new and promising industry.

It promises great things for you as well.

The new technology is a lodestone that will help you blaze a trail to a realm of possibilities. You will be pioneers, certainly here in Ontario where you will be linked to those early surveyors who scribed their marks in the wilderness -- and into our history.

Surveying has certainly undergone an evolution. From the art of mapmaking -- to the science of measurement -- to high technology fulfilling humanistic goals -- your work has potential to change the world.

Later this year, I will be introducing the long-awaited amendments to the Surveyors Act. I cannot be more specific in the timing because of legislative pressures, but I can assure you that it is the number one legislative priority for my ministry.

The technology is within your grasp. I know you will utilize this newest tool of your trade with thoughtfulness and care. You are at a new "point of beginning". The results will benefit us all.



CABIN

NR REMARKS BY

-S77 THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

SIGNING OF A
FOREST MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

AT THE

VALHALLA INN
THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO

JULY 17, 1986
9:15 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



You may not realize it, but today we're making forestry history in Ontario.

With today's signing of a Forest Management Agreement with Great Lakes Forest Products, we're ushering in a new era of forest management in Ontario.

What makes this FMA different from all the rest? Well, a couple of things.

First of all, this is the first FMA signed in Ontario since my government took office a year ago.

Also, this agreement will follow our new Class Environmental Assessment planning criteria. These criteria have formulated the extensive public input required for preparing timber management plans.

To give you an idea how extensive the public consultation process really is, let me tell you a bit about this FMA.

Back in February, about 100 Thunder Bay area residents attended an open house to discuss the proposed Black Sturgeon Forest FMA.

At the open house, we displayed maps of the proposed area. The visitors had a chance to view areas of concern we had identified. They also had 30 days to point out other concerns to us -- like cottage lakes, and the locations of wilderness schools.

We passed their concerns onto Great Lakes Forest Products. The company is now using these comments to prepare a draft management plan for this FMA area.

On August 6, we'll hold an Information Centre in Thunder Bay and offer the public 30 days to respond to the plans we have for the area. We'll point out the stands that could be eligible for harvesting over the next five years and 20 years, and the proposed access roads. We'll also identify the areas of concern, and how they could be dealt with.

Following this, there will be two more opportunities for public input and review as the plan is being prepared -- and even after it's completed in early 1987.

Increased public involvement in forest management is something I've encouraged since becoming Minister of Natural Resources. I believe the public has an important role to play in helping us plan our forests of the future.

But in order to help us plan our forests, the public needs to be fully informed. That's why I ordered the independent audit of forest management in Ontario last fall. And that's why we have released a number of important forestry reports late last year. Reports like the provincial auditor's report on forest management in Ontario and the first five-year FMA review.

Incidentally, Great Lakes Forest Products was included in that review, since it signed one of the first FMAs in Ontario. That report found that we're on the right track with these agreements. Under FMAs, site preparation, tending and regeneration have all increased.

With that kind of track record, it's only fitting that Great Lakes should once again be making forestry history.

Today's FMA emphasises the important role the public plays in forest management in Ontario.

I applaud the efforts of Great Lakes Forest Products for its support -- especially Chuck Carter, Gerry Seed and Warren Moore. I also extend a warm thank you to my ministry staff especially George Elliott, Trevor Isherwood and Wayne Nakamura for helping make the new planning process a success.

I look forward to working with all of you.

Thank you.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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CHARON REMARKS BY

NR
-S77. THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

TARENTORUS CONSTRUCTION KICK-OFF CEREMONY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

JULY 17, 1986
2.15 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good afternoon. I have attended several construction kick-offs in my year as Minister of Natural Resources. But today's ceremony gives me particular pleasure.

Because today, we are not merely launching the construction of a new building, we are celebrating a revitalized lake trout population in Lake Superior.

Almost one million lake trout will be raised at the new Tarentorus Fish Culture Station every year for stocking in eastern Lake Superior. That is a lot of fish, and it will mean a lot of fishing.

The facility that is now here is one of the province's oldest fish hatcheries, first built in the 1930s. I am proud to say the new facility will be the largest hatchery in the province and the most modern.

Tarentorus will have the best of everything. For example, a \$750,000 water diversion and pipeline system was constructed last year to bring in more freshwater from the west branch of the Coldwater Creek. With this new system, a total of 3,000 gallons per minute of cool, clear water is now brought into the hatchery. That water is excellent for raising trout.

What is particularly important about our piping system is that it is gravity fed, which eliminates the need for costly pumps that consume energy.

In the new hatchery, being built by J.P. Pierman Construction Ltd., we will speed up fry development by installing a heat pump to transfer heat to the early rearing tanks. This innovation will be funded by both my ministry and the Ministry of Energy.

We will nurture our own lake trout brood stock here, which will allow us to collect eggs on the premises rather than in the wild.

Many other innovations will be incorporated into this facility, which will cost close to \$6-million. You will have an opportunity to see them yourselves when the hatchery's new visitor services centre opens in 1988.

What you will see is a facility that will contribute substantially to Lake Superior lake trout stocks. It will also produce 200,000 lake trout backcross for Lake Huron and another 300,000 brook trout and lake trout for inland lakes in the Algoma area and districts in my ministry's northeastern region.

By investing in fish culture stations like Tarentorus, I believe we are making a sound investment in Ontario's economy.

You, here in Sault Ste. Marie, know exactly what I am talking about. You know that commercial and sport fishing generates millions of dollars for this area and is -- for some of you -- the basis of your livelihoods.

Your own municipality realizes the value of our fisheries. As many of you may know, the City of Sault Ste. Marie plans to construct its own hatchery to raise salmon, rainbow and brown trout. My ministry is more than happy to be part of this municipal effort and will contribute \$50,000 to the project for hatchery equipment.

This co-operative effort also extends to the people of this area, in particular local organizations, who are part of my ministry's Community Fisheries Involvement Program. Community support is invaluable to improving fish habitat -- the key to the long term success of our fisheries management programs.

Fisheries programs are an important part of my ministry's mandate to manage Ontario's Crown resources. But we also have a major role to play as managers of Ontario's land base -- most of which is richly forested.

Following the Tarentorus Construction Kick-Off, I will be announcing some important forestry initiatives. Initiatives targeted at stimulating the forest industry and employment across northern Ontario.

Thank you.



CAZON REMARKS BY

NR THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
- S77 ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY'S
SILVER JUBILEE

CHATHAM, ONTARIO

JULY 18, 1986
11:45 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good morning. It's certainly a pleasure to be here to help celebrate your silver anniversary.

And it is a happy coincidence that your 25th anniversary occurs at the same time that the whole conservation authorities program in Ontario is celebrating its 40th year of service.

You know, I'm a great believer in having services delivered by the people closest to the community. And the conservation authorities program is a prime example of what I mean.

Let me explain. Because authority board members and staff are also local residents, they are in tune with local needs. The things they do -- or should do -- are liable to come up in conversation at a community dance, at a friendly card party or even over a cup of coffee at a neighbor's house.

We know that these people have a monumental task in managing land and water, as well as developing recreational and educational facilities for the entire watershed. They also have the responsibility of regularly answering for their actions.

But that's not all. In order to get local funding, managers have to sell their programs to municipal governments. I'm sure Jerry Campbell will agree that the proposals he puts before municipal councillors get a rigorous review.

And I'm sure that with 25 years worth of service, the present and past members of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority can fill volumes with their achievements.

For today's auspicious occasion, I think it only appropriate to recount some of those achievements.

Right from its beginnings in 1961, your authority has shown initiative in all its endeavors -- from flood and erosion control projects, to providing educational facilities, to implementing and refining a flood forecasting and warning system.

Look at what they've had to work with. The area drained by Indian and McGregor Creeks accounts for over 27,000 hectares of land. And that's just in the immediate vicinity.

There's also the entire lower section of the mighty Thames that snakes along the northern border of the authority's jurisdiction. And we can't forget the shorelines of both Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair that form a watery border on the authority's south and west sides.

If you combine these accessible waterways with the area's fertile, low-lying and flat plain, you get agricultural land that is second to none. While it is a good combination for farmers, it can also be a destructive combination when flood season is in full swing. But I'm sure you're all quite aware of that fact.

Take last year's floods, for example -- the ones that occurred around the end of February. Maybe you recall being up to the tops of your hipwaders in icy cold water and mud. I believe I detect a few grimaces out there. Well, I think the floods of '85 will not soon be forgotten by either the Chatham area residents or the authority's personnel.

That's why the authority staff is working diligently to prevent some of the problems associated with such flooding. The Indian/McGregor Creek Flood Control Project has already made some progress. Bridge obstructions have been removed, channels improved and eroding slopes protected.

Now, the remaining phases of the project are the subject of an environmental assessment that is currently being reviewed by the Ministry of the Environment.

I understand that the assessment contains several proposals. One involves the construction of a diversion channel from McGregor Creek to the Thames River. This would provide an outlet for those times -- like last February -- when unusually warm temperatures and lots of rainfall combine to swell the creek to overflowing.

Another plan is to construct a dam at the mouth of Indian Creek. Most of the time, the dam would be open, but during the Thames' flooding season, it would close to prevent excess water from entering the creek.

Natural drainage during the dam's closure would be helped with a pumping station at the dam site. Through these initiatives, the flood-prone area at the juncture of the two creeks and the Thames would be spared some of the dangers and expenses of yet another natural disaster.

So, it's obvious you are looking to the future. Now let's take a look at some of your past accomplishments.

This authority was responsible for a five-year, \$12-million dike construction program in the mid-seventies. A lot of long, hard days were put into the project that covered 58 kilometres of the Thames. The townships of Tilbury East, Raleigh and Dover have avoided major flooding because of this initiative.

A series of stream gauging stations were installed along the Thames and its tributaries. This was done to create a responsive flood forecasting and warning system. Recently, the system was improved with two new stations located further upstream for more advanced warning.

But, as anyone who has had to deal with floods knows, there's more to control and prevention than coping with the water itself. And the authority's land management efforts affirm that very point.

Authority staff help local municipalities identify potentially hazardous floodplains in their land use plans and zoning bylaws.

They provide financial and technical assistance to landowners in the watershed. This can be anything from consultations on proper farm surface drainage to planting windbreaks or preserving significant wetlands.

A successful erosion control project was implemented to stabilize and protect parts of the Thames' riverbank. Over two million dollars in capital projects have been initiated since its inception.

More than 80,000 trees were planted in the watershed area this year thanks to the authority's tree-planting program. That's a substantial increase over the few thousand trees planted each year when the program began six years ago.

These activities are in keeping with the authority's philosophy of foreseeing and alleviating problems before they occur.

And the Lower Thames Valley C.A. also plays the part of educator and recreational activities co-ordinator at its 19 conservation areas.

At Longwoods Road, visitors can tour through a re-created thousand-year-old Iroquoian Indian village. It's called Ska-Nah-Doht, and it's popular with the public schools as well as tourists and area residents.

Over a quarter of a million people have visited the Longwoods' Resource Centre since its opening in 1974. The films, exhibits and presentations available there offer interesting facts about our native history and natural environment. And the conservation area's year-round services provide entertainment and education to summer campers as well as winter sports enthusiasts.

Right here at the C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, there's a whole array of things to do. When a family pitches its tent here, the kids can spend hours at the modern adventure playground while mom and dad explore the wetlands or go fishing on the lake. The trails and boardwalks are also designed so that the physically disabled can enjoy the pleasures of nature's handiwork.

Well, with all the work that goes on here at the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, it's no wonder the regular staff of 15 sometimes blossoms to over 100 in peak seasons.

I'm sure everyone will agree, they've done a fine job over the last 25 years -- just as I'm sure the same commitment to excellence will continue in the years to come.

This authority is an outstanding contributor to the tradition of responsive community service for which the conservation authority program in Ontario is world famous.

And with both this authority and all of the authorities collectively marking their anniversaries, I think it's doubly appropriate to give them a well-deserved pat on the back.

I have a letter here which summarizes the respect and gratitude which I feel is shared by those who have dealt with the authority over the years. And, since Mr. Rammelaere could not be present today, I shall ask you, Mr. Hann to receive it for him?

The letter reads, in part, as follows:

"Since the inception of the authority, many changes have occurred in the province and within the conservation authorities' movement in the approach and attitudes taken toward environmental issues. The importance of effective resource management has grown tremendously over that period. Over this span of time, the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority has achieved considerable success with its conservation programs. Full credit must be given to the work of the membership and staff who have made these accomplishments possible..."

"Once again, I would like to congratulate you on your accomplishments to date and wish you every success with your resource management programs and activities."



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

CANADIAN COUNCIL OF FOREST MINISTERS
DISCUSSIONS ON THE
NATIONAL FORESTRY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK

MONDAY, JULY 21, 1986

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



We are all familiar with the ideals of government. We've all heard and used words and phrases like: "Accountability". "Participatory democracy." "Open government."

Achieving these ideals means we must be willing to take stock of ourselves. We cannot expect to make decisions unchallenged and in isolation. We must be ready to encourage public involvement to make compromises and, yes, to be inconvenienced.

It is with anticipation, and perhaps a little trepidation, that my ministry, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, is now entering an era which will see its forestry activities -- the planning, the processes, the rationale behind our decisions -- laid wide open to the most intense public scrutiny.

When it's all over, the public will have been involved in one of the most thorough and wide-ranging examinations of any Crown resource.

It is a marvellous opportunity for MNR to raise public awareness of our vast forests -- a resource which is only imperfectly understood by many Ontarians.

This opportunity has come about through the interaction of several ongoing events within my ministry.

First, in November 1985 the ministry published and publicly released the provincial auditor's report on forest management. Historically, auditors' reports are not made public in full.

Second, we have released to the public the five-year reviews of Ontario's first five Forest Management Agreements. As you know, much of Ontario's harvestable timber is governed by these arrangements.

Third, my ministry has commissioned Dean Gordon Baskerville to undertake an independent audit of our forest resources. This audit, the first of its kind, will examine how we manage our forests. Dean Baskerville, of the Faculty of Forestry here at the University of New Brunswick, is being assisted by Jim Kayll of Lakehead University. The review will be made public in a matter of weeks.

Fourth is the class assessment of our timber management plans by Ontario's Ministry of the Environment. The class environmental assessment must be reviewed and approved under the province's Environmental Assessment Act. This assessment outlines MNR's formal planning process in preparing and reviewing timber management plans provincewide. That includes such matters as how we plan for access roads; harvest operations; the preparation, regeneration, protection and tending of new forests.

It also indicates the opportunities the public has to become involved in the preparation-and-review process.

The class EA is under government-wide review now. It will be followed by a public review. How MNR handles its stewardship of this province's forests, will be put under the microscope.

All these elements -- the provincial auditor's report, the review of forest management agreements, the Baskerville audit, and the class environmental assessment for timber management -- are opportunities for MNR to involve the public as never before in making decisions about our forests.

The results of these decisions will not be apparent for another 50 years or more. It is not our generation, but the next, that will judge the success or failure of those decisions.

My ministry's research tells us we are putting our forestry activities under the critical gaze of a public which knows very little about their forest legacy. What they do know is sometimes an accumulation of misconceptions.

I am sure you too labor under some of these misapprehensions and have heard statements such as:

"The province is running out of wood."

"Regeneration doesn't work."

"Government lets industry do whatever it wants, whenever it wants."

"All forest fires are bad; all chemical insecticides are bad."

In Ontario, we know we have a big job ahead. We share with you, our provincial and national counterparts, the burden of enlightening the public about these long-standing misconceptions.

If the people of Ontario are to be involved in making informed decisions affecting the future of our forests, they must be informed about forestry's past and present. At the moment, the atmosphere surrounding forestry is charged with ignorance and is frequently punctuated by hysteria and scare headlines.

That is why the national awareness campaign, and our own provincial awareness program, are so important and so timely.

I understand the national campaign will emphasize the economic value of Canada's forests, both in the international and domestic contexts.

The Ontario program has a more general focus on the multiple functions our forests serve -- including biological, esthetic, and recreational values. I anticipate that this wider view will complement the national campaign ideally.

And I'm sure some of the things my ministry has already undertaken, will be seen as complementary to the national campaign.

Our approach is a "back-to-basics" one. We are up against a number of long-standing and largely unchallenged falsehoods. We must not only give people accurate information -- we must be seen to be giving them accurate information.

Our campaign emphasizes a few simple, strong messages that should implant some of the basic truths about forestry in the public consciousness.

The idea is not to give people the ultimate "cram course" in forestry. Rather, we hope to raise their awareness of the many purposes forests serve, and the complexity of forest management.

This dovetails with Ontario's philosophy and practise of integrated resource management -- of managing our natural resources to benefit a multitude of uses and users.

The integrated use of resources is illustrated graphically in our forestry awareness poster, which I am making available here today. It shows a mature forest in natural evolution, not in a pristine state. A tree stump indicates harvesting has taken place. Younger trees show regeneration under way. Animals in foreground and background show that this is wildlife habitat. A canoeist shows the recreational benefits we derive from our forests.

This is a dynamic, changing environment. Summing it all up is the slogan "Nature's gift -- our challenge".

This poster will also be reproduced in a simpler linear form, one that can be given to children for use in schools.

When used in a classroom, the poster and linear drawing will be backed up by a teacher's guide. This is an activity book providing classroom-ready materials and background.

We expect that Ontario's Ministry of Education will soon be developing new science curriculum guidelines. These guidelines will provide teachers with more direction in teaching optional courses that are oriented to natural resources. We want to be ready to fill the need for educational materials. The classroom materials my ministry is producing now, are a good start.

The pressing need for educational materials is also the rationale behind what we are tentatively calling our "Forestry File", a collection of resource material for general and classroom use. While this is still in the planning stages, we expect it can be used to complement the national awareness campaign.

The forestry file is a vehicle for disseminating a base of information to the public. It discusses some of the misconceptions about forestry. It can be tailored to include specific subjects of interest to the individual who requests it.

If all this suggests to you that we think it's important to reach out to our schools, you are right. The education of our young people is a key component of my ministry's educational efforts -- not only now, with our forestry awareness program, but also historically.

We're very proud of our Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Centre in Dorset which was established in 1974 in central Ontario. Up to 10,000 students participate in hands-on resource management learning activities there each year.

Schoolchildren are, of course, not our only audience. We must also educate the general public, offering them simple messages that are easy to absorb. Because we are living in a visual world, we are using a number of visual aids to get our messages across.

As well as the poster, we distribute buttons. We've used a button with the message "grow a tree for me" for promotional purposes at such events as the Toronto Sportsmen's Show and National Forest Week, in many tours of our nurseries and on other high-profile occasions.

This button contains what is known as a "thumbprint" visual, the one that will infuse many of our promotional aids. Our thumbprint shows a pine tree in silhouette sheltering a younger, growing pine.

This thumbprint has visual and emotional appeal. Its message is simple, bold and direct. It is easily remembered and recognized.

We also have a slogan: "Ontario's growing forests". This is my ministry's overall campaign slogan and is painted on all our refrigerated vans which transport seedlings to reforestation sites. This simple message, too, will be repeated and reinforced constantly.

And on the lighter side, we have our Talking Tree. He has certainly appealed to family audiences everywhere he's appeared.

The talking tree was created for this year's Sportsmen's Show, where the Ministry of Natural Resources has a large exhibit. He's a costumed character, complete with bark and leaves. In skits and short plays, the talking tree addresses some of the misconceptions about forestry.

The tree was such a hit at the Sportsmen's Show, we decided to extend his career. He'll be appearing all over Ontario, in such places as Ontario Place in Toronto, the Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Centre, and the International Plowing Match in southern Ontario.

These are a few of the initiatives my ministry is taking in our provincial forestry awareness program. Just as our messages are simple, so are our goals.

We seek to impress the public with the positive values of our forests, and of forestry management.

We seek to widen people's understanding of the resource.

And we want the public to grasp that it is possible to balance forest management priorities. Government, industry, and the public all have a say in what those priorities are.

That this is true will be made abundantly clear over the next few months and years, as all three sectors discuss such matters as the Baskerville audit, the reviews of our forest management agreements, and the class environmental assessment of timber management plans.

We don't know what lies ahead for Ontario's forests. We do know that the decisions we make today are critical. And we do know that we will need the support of the people of Ontario in making those decisions.

We are convinced that this support can only come from a public truly literate in forestry matters, not one laden with forestry myths.

I believe this is the common thread that runs through all our provincial and federal awareness programs.

And I am certain that the provincial and national campaigns can work in tandem to strengthen people's understanding of this misunderstood resource.

We must communicate a forest's many values to the people who decide its fate. The future of Canada's forests may well depend on our success.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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CH 2471 NOTES FOR

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THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

MEDIA BRIEFING ON
THE RESIDENT SPORT FISHING LICENCE

TORONTO, ONTARIO

JULY 31, 1986
10:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

As you all know, in January Cabinet gave approval in principle to the proposed introduction of a resident sport fishing licence in Ontario, beginning in 1987.

Since then, the Ministry of Natural Resources has been gathering public opinion on the subject. Our plan was to hold at least 18 open houses to discuss the proposal. In fact, due to the great public interest, more than 30 meetings were held across the province. Questionnaires were distributed. I sent a letter to interested sport fishing groups, asking for their input. The subject was also raised in the provincial angler survey.

We have found there is strong public support for a resident angling licence. Fully 82 per cent of the respondents to our questionnaire supported the principle of a resident licence providing the revenues would be returned to the fishery.

Many outdoor recreation groups also endorsed the resident licence. Among them were the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, the Federation of Ontario Naturalists, the Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters Association and the Canadian Wildlife Federation. I am pleased to see that representatives of some of these groups are here today, and I want to thank you for your support.

It is obvious that the anglers of this province are ready to assume a direct responsibility and sense of stewardship for our fisheries resource.

In view of this strong support, I am pleased to announce that we will be proceeding with plans to introduce a resident sport fishing licence in 1987.

An annual licence will be required of most anglers 18 to 64 years of age, and will cost \$10. In response to the public's comments, senior citizens will not be required to purchase this licence, nor will the disabled. Status Indians fishing on their reserves or in their treaty areas will also be exempt. Also as a result of public input, we are introducing a four-day licence for occasional anglers that will cost \$5.

We learned at our open houses that while there was strong support for the resident licence, it was with the stipulation that additional funding would be allocated to fisheries programs equal to the revenue from licence sales.

Partly in recognition of this concern, I will be forming the Ontario Fisheries Advisory Council, consisting of members of the public and representatives of interest groups. This council will consult with the public on my behalf, and will advise me on sport fishing management priorities and program expenditures.

This Ontario Fisheries Advisory Council will help us ensure that direct public participation in managing the fishery will be a fundamental principle in the future program.

Sport fishing is an extremely popular pastime in Ontario. Some 28 per cent of Ontarians fish at least once a year. Sport fishing generates \$700-million a year to Ontario's economy.

We expect that this licence will generate revenue of about \$9-million to \$10-million a year. I am pleased to announce that an equivalent amount will be allocated for fisheries programs. This is in addition to the more than \$30-million already budgeted annually for fisheries in Ontario.

This revenue will go a long way toward improving the quality of the resource, and maintaining and increasing the economic and social benefits derived from the sport.

My ministry is placing a high priority on projects such as the stocking of Atlantic salmon in Lake Ontario; the introduction of Skamania steelhead trout in Lake Huron; improving the walleye fishery in northern Ontario; increasing enforcement; increasing the public's involvement in fisheries management; and an even greater emphasis on habitat rehabilitation to encourage natural reproduction.

The implications of a resident licence are far-reaching. Better fishing will surely result. Further, each licence can be directly translated into more employment, improved recreational opportunities, an enlarged tourism industry.

By establishing the resident sport fishing licence and the Ontario Fisheries Advisory Council, we are taking a significant step forward in our fisheries management programs. The resulting enhancement of the resource -- and the support of a genuinely concerned angling public -- will bring benefits to both our fisheries and the people of Ontario for years to come.



Ministry of Natural Resources
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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT A NEWS CONFERENCE

REGARDING THE BASKERVILLE REPORT

VALHALLA INN, THUNDER BAY

SEPTEMBER 4, 1986
9:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good morning. This is an important day for everyone interested in the forest resources of this province.

It is important for northern Ontario -- which is why this meeting is being held in Thunder Bay -- because timber and tourism are the lifeblood of many northern communities.

It is important for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources -- because our people are on the front lines of forest management.

It is important in terms of the way this government does business -- we have taken the unique step of asking an expert from outside government to examine our forest management procedures, and today we are releasing his findings.

The "outside" expert is the gentleman next to me. Dean Gordon Baskerville, Dean of Forestry at the University of New Brunswick, has an international reputation in forestry. He agreed last October to conduct an independent appraisal of the resource data and planning procedures in forest management on Crown land in Ontario. And he was ably assisted in his review by Dr. A.J. Kayll, Director of the School of Forestry at Lakehead University.

Dean Baskerville has produced a thoughtful and thought-provoking report which I have read with great interest. There is much in his report which will be helpful to us in the ongoing refinement of our forestry program.

As I have said many times, a well-informed public is essential to developing good resource planning in this province. That is why, within the last year, we have made public the first five-year reviews of five Forest Management Agreements and the report of the provincial auditor on the ministry's forest management activities. And why we are submitting our timber management activities to the scrutiny of a class environmental assessment.

Today, along with Dean Baskerville's report, we are releasing a document called The Forest Resources of Ontario - 1986. It is a statement on the nature and extent of the forest resource, information which was made available to Dean Baskerville for his review.

In the introduction to his findings, Dean Baskerville makes some wise observations, and I would like to quote a few lines:

"Forest management must be continually tended in order to be continually consistent in this dynamic situation. It is therefore always possible to improve forest management."

We couldn't agree more. If the ministry thought it was doing everything perfectly, there would have been little point in calling in Dean Baskerville to do this review. But let me quote some more from the same paragraph of his report:

"This audit can be a positive factor in the continuing process of improving Crown forest management in Ontario. If the audit initiates contemplative review of the parts of the system questioned, then it will be successful. If it evokes a defensive response within the OMNR, or a destructive response amongst the detractors of the OMNR it will have failed."

I want to assure Dean Baskerville, and the public of Ontario, that as far as my ministry is concerned, this audit is going to be a success.

It is going to be a success because we are determined to give the report the kind of review that its author recommends. He has given us a helpful analysis of forest management practices and has made suggestions for areas of improvement. And we are going to examine all of them and see what needs to be done.

I have already asked my Deputy Minister to prepare a detailed action plan addressing major issues identified in the report by early October. You will appreciate that a thorough review of all aspects of the report cannot be accomplished overnight. When the ministry plan of action is completed, it will be made public.

To help us begin our work, Dean Baskerville has agreed to meet tomorrow, in this same room, with a large number of the ministry's key forestry staff from across the province to discuss the issues he has raised in his report.

In my view, Dean Baskerville approached this review in a very constructive way. He did not, as he explains in his report, prescribe "fixes". What he has done is identify areas which should be examined and resolved by the ministry.

I have every confidence that this ministry will meet the challenge of tackling the issues with determination and enthusiasm.

I want to thank Dean Baskerville for agreeing to be here today and for staying over for the meeting with ministry staff tomorrow. We are appreciative of all the work he has done on this report, and the insights he has given us. and now I will turn the floor over to him. Dean Baskerville...



Ministry of Ministère des
Natural Richesses
Resources naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

NORTHERN ONTARIO TOURIST OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION

SHERATON-CASWELL INN
SUDBURY, ONTARIO

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1986
9:00 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



It's a pleasure to be back with you again. Last year was my first NOTO convention as the Minister of Natural Resources, and I feel we've got to know each other well over the past 12 months. I think you'll agree our relationship has been a productive one.

I want to say how appropriate the theme of this year's conference is, The Future is Now. At the Ministry of Natural Resources, we appreciate your concerns. They're our concerns too. I don't need to tell you how much this government believes in the importance of the tourism industry in this province, especially in the north.

At the dinner meeting I had with your executive in October, I was impressed by their level of commitment to issues that affect both the tourism industry and the ministry. I came away from that meeting with a strong feeling that the relationship between your executive and this ministry was a very solid one.

Your executive continually makes your concerns known in a thoughtful and articulate way. That not only helps you, it helps the ministry as well.

But I want to give credit to all of NOTO, as well as the executive, for your constructive and helpful input. I'm thinking particularly of the round-table conferences sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation last summer. My ministry took your ideas and suggestions seriously and, believe me, they have made a difference in the way we look at things in the north and in the way we plan.

Over the years, NOTO and the Government of Ontario have established a solid working relationship based on trust and co-operation. We've co-operated on the Crown Land Recreation Program in northwestern Ontario, in the development of tourism guidelines in forest management, and in the Community Fisheries Involvement Program.

But in many ways, I believe we have just scratched the surface in terms of working together.

I believe the time has come to really move ahead and deal forcefully with issues affecting the tourism industry in this province. We must come up with sound and practical approaches to strengthen the tourism industry and the benefits that flow from the wise use of our rich heritage of natural resources.

The only way we can do that is by working more closely together in the kind of partnership the ministry has forged with several other major groups. I want tourist operators plugged in to ministry activities, ministry plans and ministry thinking. And I want the ministry plugged into the tourist industry.

To accomplish that, I have asked ministry staff to sit down and come up with some new ideas to improve the way we do business.

My staff have done exactly that -- but I'm not going to go into details right now. I've given that job to Mary Mogford, my Deputy Minister. She will be outlining those new ideas right after I finish these remarks.

I had good reason to ask my staff for some new strategies for MNR and NOTO. Last summer's round-table conferences -- well attended by both NOTO and officials of my ministry -- helped us gain a clearer insight into your interests and concerns. It's the kind of thing we have to do more often, and on a regular basis. I'm convinced of that.

Nothing illustrates what I'm talking about here as much as the Crown Land Recreation Program established as a pilot project in the northwest in 1984. That was something MNR and NOTO worked on as a team.

As you know, under one part of this program, non-residents were asked to pay a \$3 dollar daily fee to camp on Crown land in the 239,000-square-kilometre study area. Families with children under 17 were asked for a \$5 dollar fee.

We certainly didn't have to do a selling job on you people. But at the start we did have to convince our American visitors of the value of such a program. One of its purposes was to improve the quality of camping by preventing the overcrowding and over-use of campsites, and to prevent overfishing on some waters.

The fees charged were also designed to help cover the increased costs of providing services on Crown land, such as garbage collection and parking lot maintenance.

What was more important, however, was that the fees helped encourage non-residents to start using private sector facilities. In fact, 24 Crown land camping areas located in the region have been privatized since the program came into effect. In 1986, these locations were used by some 7,600 clients, resulting in revenues totalling \$196,000 to private operators.

That is really just the tip of the iceberg of benefits, as it turns out. According to our best estimates, we now believe that the northwestern Crown land recreation pilot program contributed an extra \$400,000 to \$850,000 annually to the tourist industry since it was introduced.

I think that's great -- but I think that's only the beginning. There is further potential for growth in the next few years across northern Ontario if we take full advantage of Crown land to bolster the northern economy.

And that is exactly what the ministry will do.

We know any new programs have to be thought out carefully. We know you have to be fully involved. And we know your special concerns have to be taken into account. For example, in our discussions with you, and at the round-table conferences, we've become aware of the various differences within the tourism industry in the north. What's good for one operator, may not be good for his neighbor. That's why it is our intent to develop a Crown Land Recreation Program that is sensitive to those differences.

In any case, we are so encouraged by the results in the northwestern pilot study area, and by what they promise, that I am pleased to announce this morning that we are considering the expansion of the program right across northern Ontario on a permanent basis.

It requires a great deal of study, as I said, but if we decide to go ahead -- and it looks very good at this point -- it would be our intent to have the program in place by the 1988 camping season.

The philosophy behind this and similar initiatives is simple: This government believes that non-residents should share the costs of maintaining Ontario's Crown land recreation resources. What is more important, however, we also feel that the tourism industry -- along with the people of Ontario -- deserve to share in the benefits of that program.

NOTO, the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation and other concerned parties will be playing a big role in that expansion.

NOTO is particularly well-suited for participation in such a plan. You know the north, and you know the issues. You have a track-record of offering constructive input. You are valuable partners in key decisions that this ministry must make.

That's a conclusion I have reached in the past year and a half and I've recently given directions to my staff to come up with strategies that will give NOTO an even bigger voice and more influence in ministry planning.

That's something Mary Mogford will also be discussing in her remarks to you.

I have another example of how things are changing between us. The new regulations governing bear and deer hunters was something we have both been working on. It's an example of how MNR and NOTO can pull together to strengthen tourism and the northern economy.

Working with the tourist industry in northwestern Ontario, we implemented regulations that require non-resident hunters to be registered guests of a licensed tourist outfitter, hotel, motel or commercial campground, or to use the services of an approved guide.

Although the exact figures aren't known, we do know that the average expenditure per hunter increased in the first year of the program. We also know that the bear harvest increased in both years. Mr. Bisset will be giving you details in his presentation at the bear workshop later today.

We're pleased with the results of these new regulations, too. And that's why this ministry is also considering the expansion of the bear and deer regulations from the pilot area to the rest of the province. If all goes well, we hope to have these regulations in place in 1987.

But I have more good news. In response to our mutual concern that our black bear population remains healthy, I will be very shortly introducing amendments to the Game and Fish Act of Ontario in the Legislature.

Those amendments will support what we are both trying to accomplish in the bear program across the province.

You will be getting more details later from Howard Smith. But here are some of the highlights: First, the amendments will provide the means to minimize conflict between those who use dogs in hunting bears and those who use baits.

Second, only one bear license per hunter per year will be allowed. Another amendment will allow us to prohibit unauthorized persons from shooting over someone else's baited area.

I have already been successful in taking the Bill through the Legislative Committee of Cabinet. I'm pleased to advise you that it will go to the full Cabinet tomorrow. From there, I'm hopeful it will proceed to the Legislature's order paper very quickly.

Our proposals have been developed very much in response to briefs from NOTO and other interested groups. These amendments are still another instance of positive and informed input.

What I have been talking about for the past few minutes illustrates how much the government depends on your input and your ideas. What government needs to do now is act faster and more decisively to implement the programs we know will work well.

I think we should think things out very carefully together. But I also think that after the analysis and planning is over, we should get on with the job as fast as we can.

This acceleration can be accomplished in a variety of ways and my Deputy Minister will be outlining the fine points to you as soon as I finish these remarks.

We are responding here to some serious concerns you have expressed. You are concerned about the time it takes to get things done. You made that abundantly clear in your early comments about new non-resident fishing licences introduced a few years ago. You said we had come up with a cumbersome and time-consuming method of issuing those licences.

What I appreciate, looking back, is the way you made your feelings known to us in a very constructive way. I have never been comfortable -- and this is putting it mildly -- with people who are more interested in causing a fuss than in solving a problem. Your approach is my ideal of how groups such as ours should do business all the time.

Thanks to your comments on the issuing procedure, we have been able to go back to the drawing board and come up with a better system that gets anglers to lakes and streams a lot quicker than before.

You will also be pleased to know that the non-resident license includes a postage-paid tear-out card which can be used by anglers to obtain information on the damage being done to Ontario lakes by acid rain.

We realize, too, that there have been some difficulties in the moose allocation process. Right now we're in the midst of working with your group and others to improve the process.

By the way, I might point out that NOTO's allocation for 1987 was up slightly from the year before.

Arnold Beebe, Chairman of the Provincial Moose Allocation Advisory Committee, will be front and centre later on this morning at the workshop to discuss the self-allocation process and to answer questions you may have about it.

We've also been listening to concerns about this government's timber management plans, which include guidelines to protect tourism.

We hear you asking what effect timber management plans will have on access to previously remote tourist establishments. About their impact on the quality of fishing and hunting. About their effect on the aesthetics of your operations.

Let me tell you that we share these very legitimate concerns. And that is why the ministry has implemented what we believe is a fair and sensible process that guarantees you the right to have a voice and guarantees that you will be heard.

You know how this process operates during the 12-month period it takes to finalize a specific management plan for any one of the more than 100 units in the province.

That process actively solicits participation from everyone. And let me assure you that the particular concerns of the tourism industry will receive careful review.

I would like to announce that at the breakfast meeting I had with your Executive earlier this morning, I delivered the first six copies of the Timber Management Guidelines for the Protection of Tourism Values. And I have arranged for each concerned NOTO member to receive a copy directly from his or her district manager in the very near future.

Let me stress that this was very much an industry effort, involving dozens of tourism operators and forest industry representatives. The Ministries of Natural Resources and Tourism and Recreation simply acted as facilitators for the process. We didn't write the guidelines. They were a product of the energy and imagination of those most directly affected.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the very special efforts of several people: Rod Munford, Darryl Rogerson and Bob McKercher from NOTO; and Bob Loughlan from the Ontario Forest Industries Association.

That experience -- of two major interest groups working together to tackle an issue of mutual concern -- bodes well for the future. It means that other potentially divisive issues can be resolved constructively by the parties concerned.

I think we need to do the same kind of thing across all our programs. You need to know what our planning processes entail, how you are involved and how these plans interrelate.

In fact, I think the ministry really needs strategies specifically focused on northern tourism that all our managers can follow.

In a few minutes, Mary Mogford will also be discussing how you can help with these strategies.

On a related subject, I want to remind you that NOTO's interests are always in our minds as we move toward negotiating Indian fishing agreements and formulating district fisheries management plans.

The issue of fishing rights of Ontario's native people is complicated and sensitive. It has, unfortunately, caused long-running disputes between the ministry and some Indian bands.

Aboriginal peoples do have special status under the treaties their ancestors signed with the Crown and under the Canadian constitution, particularly when it comes to hunting and fishing for food.

The disagreement arises over how far special status goes. Last February, representatives of the Ontario government, the federal government and native organizations on the Tripartite Council agreed to negotiate regional Indian fishing agreements.

Ontario has centred its public involvement effort around an MNR team of regional representatives. Each regional office appointed one or two staff to work directly with our provincial negotiator, Al Stewart. There are presently 12 staff on this team.

The concept is that staff living and working in various regions of the province will be responsible for consulting with the public in that region.

Ontario has not developed a negotiating position, and will not do so until it has heard from the public.

I must stress something. All the concerns that you will raise will be brought forward when the negotiations begin. The government is committed to bringing the negotiations to fruition -- but only to the satisfaction of all affected groups, especially tourist outfitters. We are committed to being fair to everyone and considering all existing resource-based activities.

We're both aware of the central role fishing plays in the tourist industry. That's why I'm happy to comment on the impact of the new resident fishing licence.

My ministry has already allocated almost \$700,000 in advance funding for a variety of projects, including a community-run fish hatchery in Sault Ste. Marie. And this is just a beginning. We expect that sale of the new licence could raise as much as \$9-million a year for fisheries management projects, once things are rolling. We plan to spend a lot of this new money on fisheries projects in the north because the success of northern tourism depends so much on fishing.

I'm going to repeat again that in all of MNR's negotiations and planning, we have the firm conviction that tourist values need protection and enhancement. We believe your industry has a key role to play in the economic and social well-being of the north.

We believe this particularly in view of the fact that the north is currently facing major economic challenges.

The news in the resource sector, as you well know, has not been good over the past several years. But as the Premier said in his address at the recent Conference on Northern Competitiveness at Sault Ste. Marie, changes have to be made to our traditional resource-based industries so they can compete in the international marketplace.

At the same time, the investment climate must be made attractive for new industries, new businesses, new initiatives.

The bottom line is: government realizes that things have to change.

It's clear to this government that tourism is, and can continue to be, one of the stable industries to help offset cyclical declines in other areas in the north. That's why we intend to look at our policies through your eyes. What benefits you, benefits the north -- and indeed the whole province.

Strictly speaking, tourism falls under the jurisdiction of another ministry. I'm not worried about that. And neither is the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. We know what's important here -- and that is serving the customer -- you. That's why I've directed Ministry of Natural Resources staff to look at your industry as never before as they go about managing Crown land resources.

You people have to be at the heart of our resource planning -- along with the north's other major client groups.

I know that many of you are uncertain about just how all of this government's various planning processes fit together in a comprehensive way to address your concerns. Let me tell you that we are working toward a comprehensive strategy for the north. And I can promise you that we will continue to solicit your participation in formulating that strategy.

The ministry is currently looking at ways to develop Crown land so that it helps the development of the north, so that it helps northerners.

Here is a quick example of what those fine words really mean. I know that tourist operators are often unhappy with the short-term land use permits they receive and that in some cases this discourages them from making a major investment in facilities on Crown land.

As part of our Crown land development program, we are looking at the possibility of providing longer-term tenure on Crown land for tourist operators who have made a major investment or who wish to expand their investment on a solid footing.

Staff are currently looking for areas to test a number of initiatives -- including longer term tenure for tourist operators -- where such arrangements can enhance economic benefits generated by the tourism sector.

That is an example of something you suggested and we are taking action on. That's an area in which the communications were good. But I know that while you may feel there is adequate discussion and consensus on issues of concern, this doesn't always get translated into practical, solution-oriented action at the tourist-operator level.

That is something that bothers me too. Well, my Deputy Minister has some ideas on how that problem can be overcome, and she will outline those shortly.

If I had to sum up everything I've said to this point it would be that the government believes the north has always been a great asset to this province. We are committed to helping northern Ontarians remain self-sufficient, but a lot more prosperous.

This government is not big on short-term, band-aid solutions to problems. We believe in well-thought-out approaches that -- once the thinking is over -- are implemented quickly.

I think NOTO and MNR work well together and that we do think out things carefully. But, as I've already told you, I think we are both ready to move beyond co-operation to an even closer relationship. To do that, we have to go back to some basics. We have to improve the way we communicate, the way we share opinions and plans, and the way we listen to one another.

That's why, at this time, I'd like to introduce my partner in the Ministry of Natural Resources. She is here to give you some specific proposals for enhancing the ways we connect with one another.

I believe they are going to change forever our historically good relationship -- and for the better.

I'd like now to call on the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources.

Ladies and gentlemen, Mary Mogford.



Ministry of Ministère des
Natural Richesses
Resources naturelles

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REMARKS BY

MARY MOGFORD
DEPUTY MINISTER
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

NORTHERN ONTARIO TOURIST OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

AT THE

SHERATON-CASWELL INN
SUDBURY, ONTARIO

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1986

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



It is a real pleasure for me to be here with you today at your annual conference.

As the Minister has already done, I want to extend credit to the NOTO executive for all their work on your behalf.

The examples given by the Minister are worth repeating. The first is the dinner we had with the executive in October where they brought your concerns and your ideas very forcefully to our attention. The second is their involvement at the tourism round-table conferences last summer. And, earlier this month, their presence at the Premier's Conference on Northern Competitiveness in Sault Ste. Marie.

These are all instances of the time and energy the members of your executive have spent as your very capable representatives.

My job right now is to outline a number of directions the Minister and I plan to take. They will help ensure MNR and NOTO not only continue working effectively together, but that our working relationship will be raised to a new level.

As the Minister has already said, we work well together, but there could always be improvements. For instance, there are several major areas that need to be addressed.

One such area has to do with the planning processes of the ministry.

In today's world, full of shifts in economies and trade, revolutions in technology and rapid change, governments and their departments have to plan well, or perish.

MNR is no exception. That's why we are planning like never before in all our program areas. And we are involving the public to ensure those plans will work and that everyone is treated fairly.

We are pretty well caught up in our major areas of responsibility -- forests, fisheries, wildlife, Crown lands and waters and parks and recreational areas. We have the planning processes in place.

Because those plans are integrated, not made in isolation, all the bases we can think of have to be covered -- and that, most definitely, includes tourism.

But, as tourist operators, I can certainly understand your concern about the number of plans we have and how they fit together.

This also creates a challenge -- one that you, as tourist operators, can especially appreciate. We have to find a way to pull together all these resource plans that relate to tourism, so we can demonstrate that we are doing our utmost and so you can understand, double-check our work, be involved -- and spot opportunities we may have overlooked.

We also have to demonstrate -- and maybe we haven't done that as well as we could have -- that through these plans you have more influence than ever before on what happens in resource management and its relationship to tourism.

Looking at all this planning through your eyes, I can certainly understand that you might be concerned about getting adequate and full input into what is going on.

Well, there are plans -- but I must stress to you that they are the plans of NOTO and the Ministry of Natural Resources -- your plans as much as ours.

You helped us formulate them -- in forest management, Crown land recreation, fisheries management and in wildlife management. What we have to do now is pull the essential elements into cohesive strategies for northern tourism.

And that introduces the second area in which work is needed. I believe there is a perception within NOTO that our ministry is not successfully addressing the broader issue of tourism.

We have plans and policies that relate directly to trees, or moose, or parks, or fish -- but there is no separate program that stands by itself, that focuses directly on tourism -- an industry that cuts across all our programs.

There is a growing awareness in the Ministry of Natural Resources that we, as resource managers, are very much involved in the tourism business. As a result, I believe we need to direct our work with that in mind.

This means the thoughtful and sensitive co-ordination of all elements of our programs that affect tourism. I feel it is important to refine our programs with tourism values and interests clearly in mind.

Another challenge we face together is overcoming a problem that is common when big organizations work together.

The top people meet and decide what should be done -- but then for various reasons there can be a breakdown between the decision makers and the people who actually implement those decisions.

It's the famous breakdown in communications. Despite all the good things we have accomplished, there are -- despite all our best efforts -- some directions that could be translated a little more clearly.

Well, the future is now, and we in the Ministry of Natural Resources are prepared to act now.

We have heard your concerns, and we understand them. In response, I would like at this time to announce some changes in the way we do business with one another.

First of all, let's establish a better means of communicating. I would like to do this by appointing a well-respected, senior member of my ministry staff to deal with the development of a number of practical solutions to problems faced by NOTO and the ministry.

I am pleased to announce that George McCormack has agreed to do this on a special assignment basis. George will be working with NOTO, other ministries and MNR staff and will be reporting to me in March of 1987. George will be aided by a small team of MNR managers selected from around the ministry.

The ministry and NOTO, as the Minister and I have already noted several times, have enjoyed a productive history of co-operation. The appointment of George McCormack and the work of the team will ensure any hitches that do exist will get swift and immediate action.

I want this team to provide our field managers with an array of practical tools to facilitate more effective responses to the concerns of the tourist industry.

We want to be able to view what we do through your eyes. That means we have to work closely with NOTO people in the field.

That's why the ministry is prepared to extend funding to allow NOTO members to be a part of this special problem-solving team. We know how busy you are -- but we need your expert advice, your suggestions. It's only fair that government be prepared to reimburse you so that you can take part in resource management without worrying about extra expenses.

One item I have asked George to tackle right away is finding additional ways to address individual tourist operator's concerns regarding access.

Another is finding practical solutions for improving the fisheries resource base for the tourism industry through improved management techniques.

Then there is the whole question of tenure, and the possibility that if the government granted longer-term tenure it would provide more security and lever greater investment.

Another item that could be looked at might be the whole issue of communications between MNR and NOTO -- at all levels. What can we do to improve it?

I used the phrase "swift action" just a moment ago. I really meant that. As I said earlier, George will be reporting to me by the end of March 1987.

Since the future is now, let's not waste any time.

I would also like to share with you the fact that I have directed each of the district managers throughout the north to immediately schedule annual meetings with local tourist operators.

I have also directed the northern managers to prepare regular agendas for the local meetings. I can see those agendas dealing with matters that vitally concern you, such as proposed forest management activities for the upcoming year, road access plans for the future, resource status reports and, obviously, any subject of specific interest to tourist operators.

To help get this process of annual meetings going and keep it on track, I have also suggested that the chairing of the meetings might alternate between NOTO members and MNR district managers.

There's no need to wait. You people can immediately begin recommending NOTO members who could take part in these annual meetings.

Such meetings will be important forums in which we can get to know your concerns more quickly, and where you will get to know the ministry's district managers on a more personal basis.

The Minister mentioned the handbook on timber management that is being produced. I see a definite need for another handbook that should prove to be extremely valuable to tourist operators.

This handbook would outline clearly the various planning processes that the ministry is currently involved in. There are many, and tourist operators should have something in writing that clearly explains that range and how the various processes inter-relate and affect you.

I have directed my staff to begin working with you and others immediately to determine what should be in the handbook. I would like to see the process completed within six months.

As I mentioned earlier, each program area -- for example, fisheries -- has its own planning process. These processes are designed to mesh with, say, the process used by foresters or land use managers. We believe they do. But preparing this handbook would be the acid test.

These are actions the ministry is taking immediately. I trust they meet with your approval. I trust you support them, and will take advantage of these new initiatives.

The phrase "partnership in resource management" has perhaps been overworked -- but offhand I can't think of a better description of what we are trying to accomplish.

We have come a long way in the past 10 years. You are right to feel the time has come to move a little faster and a little farther. We feel that way too.

I hope the initiatives I have just described help achieve that. I would be very interested in hearing what you think about them, and I would certainly be interested in hearing from you about other improvements we could make.

You are worried about ministry planning procedures and we're both concerned about improving communications. Perhaps we can alleviate those concerns by working much more closely together in these areas.

Just to summarize, the ministry is proposing to establish a special problem-solving team of MNR and NOTO people, headed by George McCormack. That team would start work almost immediately and report back within six months.

We are also suggesting field staff and local NOTO members strengthen an already close relationship through more contact, but especially through regular, high-priority annual meetings that might alternately be chaired by NOTO people.

Those local teams could start planning their annual meetings right away.

I also mentioned that we need a handbook to explain how the Ministry of Natural Resources carries out planning in all its programs. We need that, and you need that.

Together, we may even decide there's a need for other handbooks -- whatever it takes to keep you informed and knowledgeable so we work together on strengthening northern tourism.

Working together, the ministry and NOTO will be building something new on an historically sound relationship. Personally, I am excited by the possibilities and so are ministry staff.

Thank you very much for this time, and for your attention.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ONTARIO FISH PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONVENTION

HOLIDAY INN
TORONTO, ONTARIO

JANUARY 12, 1987
9 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good morning, and welcome to the opening of the 1987 annual convention of the Ontario Fish Producers Association.

At this time last year, I told you about my vision of the commercial fishing industry in Ontario. At that time, I was fairly new in my role as Ontario's Minister of Natural Resources.

In the 12 months since, let me tell you, I have learned a lot. I have gained a fair amount of experience -- not only in fishery management, but seeing how those issues have an impact on other resources and resource users.

That ability to see things in context -- to have "the big picture" -- can only come about when people are willing to share information. You have been more than generous in sharing your expertise so that we can accomplish even better things for the Ontario fisheries. I want to hear from you. We want to know your concerns, and we very much value your support and co-operation.

Right now -- at the start of a new year -- is a particularly good time to reflect on what we accomplished together in 1986, and what we hope to achieve this year.

When I reflect on the year past and the year just started, I think I can attribute all our actual and expected accomplishments to one thing: communication.

Together, we have done a lot of talking -- and a lot of listening -- about our mutual expectations of Ontario's fisheries. I know there's going to be a lot more talking and listening. So far, there's been great communication between your association and the Ministry of Natural Resources. Between commercial fishermen and other resource users. And between commercial fishermen.

That, in a nutshell, is really the trend for what I see in the coming year. We need to do a lot more talking and listening to each other -- and to those other resource users. 1986 was a banner year. I can assure you that 1987 will be even better.

Look at how the lines of communication -- the path to solving common problems and reaching common goals -- were opened up in 1986:

Surely one of the biggest steps forward was the establishment of fishermen's committees on four of the Great Lakes and on Lake of the Woods. These committees have been working closely with MNR managers since they were formed.

To my mind, that's really putting into practice the principle of shared resource management.

Another big step forward in our relations has been achieved because of your industry's big welcome to MNR's commercial fisheries liaison officer, Doug Townsend.

Doug started his job in late-1985 and really got settled into his position in 1986.

In that time, he participated in commercial fish audits; reviewed MNR policy with respect to commercial fishing; compiled two newsletters; provided information assistance to commercial fishermen on modernization; and attended meetings with commercial fishermen and Ministry staff across the province.

Doug was also involved in bringing your specific individual concerns and recommendations to me.

Last but not least, he also assisted in preparing the OFPA's Royal Winter Fair exhibit, where thousands had the opportunity to learn about your industry.

Generally, Doug has served as a sort of pipeline between MNR and the industry. He has played a vital part in opening up our lines of communications to ensure that we're talking to, and not at, each other.

Another major step we took together last year was the beginning of our lake-by-lake assessment of the resource. Last year at this meeting I announced a review of MNR's assessment capabilities.

Making that decision was a test of our faith in each other. In doing so, I hoped to demonstrate to you that MNR is willing to test itself and its procedures. At the same time, we are relying on you to help us in bringing about satisfactory fisheries assessments. The results of assessment are vital to both the industry and MNR.

I am pleased to tell you today that the first assessment -- of Lake Erie -- is now available. In fact, the Lake Erie Fisheries Steering Committee met last week, and its findings will be reviewed at a workshop here tomorrow in the form of a presentation and discussion.

As I told you last year, we at MNR consider the assessment reviews to be a matter of the utmost importance. We are prepared to review our program for the Great Lakes and make changes, if required.

You will note that the Lake Erie review consultant makes suggestions for further industry participation. I hope the industry responds favorably. If we can gather more information about the state of the resource, we will all be in a better position to make intelligent, informed decisions about its future.

The past couple of years have been trying times for us all since the first parts of the modernization plan were introduced in 1984.

But things are settling down now, and we're starting to realize some of the benefits of the program. Control of harvest has been beneficial not only for the fish, but also for fishermen, many of whom experienced their best year ever in 1986.

We at MNR are happy about that -- and no doubt many of you are too.

But we should not lose sight of the fact that harvest control is primarily a conservation measure.

The associated benefits of consistent supplies of fish, absence of market gluts, and so on, all have beneficial effects on fish prices. This, we have seen.

And we should not lose sight of the fact that fish stock strength waxes and wanes. So as well as the increases in allocation that some areas have received for 1987, reduction may be necessary occasionally, to ensure that the supply of fish to market continues without major interruptions.

What do I see ahead for you in 1987?

I believe this year will largely be one of consolidation -- and of even greater dialogue on the future of the resource.

I see 1987 as a year of stability for your industry. The time has come to allow the many processes that have changed recently to settle and be allowed to run their course. This will mean we can root out their weaknesses and build on their strengths.

Many of you have indicated your faith in the industry by making major investments -- by acquiring quotas from other fishermen, and by improving docking and processing facilities. This year will, I hope, be the beginning of a period in which you can settle down to manage your businesses.

At the same time, I expect to see our lines of communications expand.

We need to talk still more about some of the recommendations of the modernization committee -- recommendations that I know are of interest to fishermen, but that have not been implemented.

I'm thinking here about incidental catch. Of more flexibility with respect to multi-year and shared quotas. Of amending the regulations governing the industry. Of a penalty system administered outside the courts.

Which of these recommendations are really needed? How will they be administered? How do fit into the existing system? How will they be affected by the controlled harvest? These are questions that will shape the future of your industry, perhaps for generations to come.

The whole thrust behind these recommendations is to build more flexibility and credibility into our system of fisheries management. We're going to be investigating, in some depth this year, how these recommendations can be implemented so that you can be more directly involved in fisheries management.

This is something you've asked for, and we are ready to listen to your ideas.

In the same vein, we'll be asking your advice this year on ways to resolve resource conflicts, aside from the traditional avenue of the court system. I think we all agree that we need to do more than merely rely on the legal process -- in particular, to curtail quota violations.

I expect you'll have some imaginative ideas on how to solve this problem. In 1987, we're going to give you opportunities to tell us about them.

I think 1987 will be the year we lay the groundwork that will eventually result in greater autonomy in the industry.

I see communication on these and other issues as being the top priority for 1987. If we want the resource to have a smooth future, we have to pave the way -- first by discussing, and only then, by doing.

I see 1987 as a year of round table discussion. For starters, next month we'll be hosting the first industry/ministry/angler workshop on incidental catch.

There have been a lot of misconceptions about this topic through the years. I think this workshop will give us all insight on how commercial fishermen, anglers, and MNR staff can co-operate in resolving this issue.

Next, we'll be continuing our Great Lakes fisheries review. I believe that Lake Huron should be the next candidate for this program. We will follow the outline developed for Lake Erie, using an MNR/industry steering committee, but asking scientists from the private sector to tender on the work.

Of course, MNR will also be talking to other resource users. I think you'll be hearing a lot in 1987 about our ongoing negotiations on Indian fishing needs.

Our special negotiator for native issues, Al Stewart, made a presentation on this topic to your executive last week. You will hear from him later in your program.

Before I conclude, I would like to offer some observations about a concern that is real to many of you, and certainly to MNR managers. I'm talking about law enforcement.

MNR's total budget for all fisheries work in this province is about \$30-million. Of that, about \$5-million is devoted to administering and enforcing the commercial fish industry.

I suspect that this amount is out of proportion to the real need -- and the results. I'll bet you wouldn't have any trouble thinking of better ways to spend \$5-million. And frankly, I know that the number of conscientious, law-abiding members of your industry greatly outnumber deliberate evaders.

We should be re-directing some of that money to meet your industry's needs more effectively. To do so, we need your advice -- and your co-operation.

I would like to make it clear that MNR is continuing to monitor catches closely. But we would prefer to be, not your policemen, but rather your auditors. I believe you should be setting your own standards, for two reasons.

First, I believe people in control of their industry behave more responsibly about it.

Second, it'll reduce the amount of money MNR has to spend on enforcement -- freeing some funding for more worthwhile fishing endeavors.

I believe we should be acting jointly in this matter, and I shall ask your executive to provide me with your ideas on how we can do this. I should like to see some proposals by July, 1987.

MNR is prepared to have the industry itself involved in the development of solutions, not only to fisheries assessment issues, but to pressing management issues, as well.

That is why, as I mentioned earlier, we're prepared to contract-back some functions directly to the industry. It can be done. On Lake Erie, the industry works closely with MNR in controlling fish harvests and assessment.

One of the greatest benefits of having the industry involved in such functions is that you'll have a greater faith in our processes, because you'll have been directly involved in doing the work yourselves. So you -- and MNR -- will both have confidence in the results. That's something I know we both want.

And the more you do for yourselves, the greater the stake you have in the well-being of the resource.

This entrepreneurial spirit is also what's behind the introduction of royalties this year.

As you know, you are not the only users being asked to contribute to the resource. This year is also the first year that recreational fishermen are getting involved, by way of a resident sport fishing licence. We estimate their contribution could be about \$8-million a year.

So your royalties will put you in the same situation as other corporate citizens, at a time when other resource users are clearly committed to making a financial contribution to the resource.

Looking beyond 1987, I hope to see the industry widening its communications efforts to include the general public. To help you in this, MNR would like to discuss with the industry the co-operative production of a video, one that would foster public awareness of commercial fishing -- and commercial fishing products -- in Ontario.

It would be designed for viewing mostly within the provincial educational system, but I can see your story as being of interest to a wide public audience.

We're also looking at ways to get information to you, in a readily-assimilated form, about matters which affect fish stocks and trade in fish. That's another job that Doug Townsend has -- to provide you with useful information for your industry.

In closing, I am confident that the year -- and years -- ahead will be good ones. Back at the start of this decade, we began working together to modernize your industry.

That was a sign of the times. The most important trend in government today is the trend towards shared management of common resources. And our work is not yet finished.

I believe this industry's involvement in shared fisheries management can be a model for all resource users to emulate.

And at the end of this decade, I believe we'll have come a long way in building a lasting partnership, and a real sense of joint responsibility for the resource.

Together, we can make good things happen for the fisheries of Ontario.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

MARY MOGFORD
DEPUTY MINISTER
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

30TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
AGGREGATE PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

AT THE

WESTIN HOTEL
OTTAWA, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 9, 1987
1:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Thank you Mr. Flemington. It is a pleasure to be here today and to be able to personally congratulate your organization on its 30th anniversary.

Your anniversary is also a cause for some celebration within the Ministry of Natural Resources.

We've watched your organization grow over the past years from a group of producers meeting to share their concerns, into a strong, influential organization that has gained recognition throughout North America.

Particularly in the past 15 years, the ministry has enjoyed an increasingly close relationship with aggregate producers. We have faced challenges together, overcome differences of opinion, and grown together.

Today, some of the best associates the aggregate industry have may be found among the staff of my ministry. They are people who understand the importance of aggregate to our economy, who understand your concerns and who want to see your industry grow and prosper.

We could not have reached this point were it not for the way you have helped us and the close co-operation that has developed between us over the years.

I have talked with some members of your executive on other occasions, but this is the first time I have had the pleasure of speaking to an aggregate producers meeting.

One reason that I am particularly pleased to be here with you today is that the aggregate industry is not at all new to me. In fact, the challenges facing the industry and government are something I have been working on for a long time.

In 1975, I was director of what is now called the Policy and Planning Secretariat for MNR. We saw then that the ministry needed a clear, comprehensive plan for the future, if it was going to ensure that the best possible use would be made of the province's aggregate resources.

Clearer legislation and some long-term guidelines were essential to encourage industry and the municipalities to develop these resources.

I was directly involved in the establishment of the Ontario Mineral Aggregate Working Party. Two of your members were also involved in that committee, representing your concerns. And out of that committee came two major approaches to aggregate resource management. One was the Mineral Aggregate Resources Policy, or MARP.

Last year, MARP was adopted as the first official policy statement under the Planning Act. That means municipalities must now give appropriate consideration to existing operations and mineral aggregate resources when preparing their Official Plans and zoning bylaws.

Another major item to come out of that working party was a recommendation for new legislation -- the Aggregates Act. We expect this piece of legislation will be introduced to the Legislature later this year. You will hear more about this proposed Act tomorrow from Dale Scott, supervisor of our Aggregate Resources Section.

This Bill will consolidate all the existing legislation dealing with aggregate extraction into a single statute. It will replace the Pits and Quarries Control Act, the Beach Protection Act, and the part of the Mining Act dealing with Quarry permits.

As most of you know, this piece of legislation has been in the works for a long time. An earlier version of this Bill had actually been introduced to the Legislature several years ago. But it died on the order paper in the 1981 election and was never re-introduced.

When the responsibility for administering the Mining Act was transferred to the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines last year, aggregates remained the responsibility of MNR.

That meant the proposed Act had to be completely revised once again. The new Act will cover all aggregate operations throughout the province on both private and Crown land -- and under water as well. The only aggregate operation not covered will be private land in non-designated areas.

Drafting any piece of legislation is not easy. When it involves something as important as ensuring the best use of our aggregate resources, it becomes even more difficult.

Because legislation can have a profound -- and often disrupting -- effect if it is not properly considered, extreme care has to be taken. And extreme care often involves time.

That is why there are a number of steps that have to be taken before a new bill is passed. Briefly, here is what happens.

First of all, ministry officials have to spell out, for themselves, just what the intent of any new bill is and what policy issues they think it needs to address. Then they meet with groups who will be affected by the proposed changes and make sure the policies proposed for legislation satisfy their concerns.

In the case of the proposed Aggregates Act, that meant meeting with representatives from your industry -- of course -- as well as representatives from the municipalities; ratepayers associations; environmental groups; conservation groups and others.

This Act will also have an impact on policies and programs administered by other ministries. We talked to officials at the ministries of transportation and communications; agriculture and food; municipal affairs; environment, and others, to make sure their concerns were also satisfied.

The policy issues may be presented to several Cabinet committees. It may even be submitted to Cabinet twice -- once to make sure that the policy directions are acceptable to the government, and then again to ensure that the proposed draft of the Bill accurately reflects the approved policy direction.

After it has been approved by Cabinet, a Bill is sent to the Legislature, where it goes through three readings. If the opposition parties have any objections to the Bill, or want to make amendments during the debate on second reading, it may be sent to a Legislative Standing Committee.

A standing committee is made up of MPPs from all parties. They would go through the Bill, clause by clause, suggesting amendments. The Minister can either accept or reject these amendments. Only after all the amendments have been dealt with in a way acceptable to the government, does the bill go back to the Legislature for third reading, and to be signed into law by the Lieutenant-Governor.

So you can see why there are sometimes delays in putting new legislation in place, especially in a complex society like Ontario where there is constant change and frequent need for new laws in every field, it seems.

Dale Scott will outline the technical aspects of the new Act for you tomorrow. But there are a few things I would like to highlight.

First of all, we believe the new Bill contains clearer wording. Some sections of the old legislation were ambiguously worded, and as a result, difficult to administer and enforce.

This Bill will also give the municipalities a greater role. The Act will give them a hand in licensing and reviewing pit and quarry operations. And it will permit them to receive financial compensation for allowing aggregate extraction in their areas. Having a greater say in what goes on may encourage the municipalities to be more amenable to having aggregate resources developed in their jurisdictions.

But one of our biggest concerns is rehabilitation.

Thirty years ago, the rehabilitation of pits and quarries was not much of an issue. You found the aggregate, extracted it, and moved on. Only in very rare cases was any attempt made to return the site to a usable condition. Thirty years ago, there was little incentive to do so.

But times have changed. Today, rehabilitation is a major concern for government, for the municipalities, and especially for the public. And I know it is also a major concern of progressive-minded aggregate producers who realize the importance of good relations with the public.

I have seen the evidence of that concern of producers in a number of areas. I have toured some outstanding examples of rehabilitated pits and quarries both in England and in Ontario.

In 1975, I toured 15 sites southwest of London, England, with Sherry Yundt, who is now director of our Land Management Branch. Our visit included rehabilitation projects near Sunbury, Ashford and Thorpe. I know that some of the members of your association also toured rehabilitated sites in England that year -- including at least three of the same spots we visited.

Here in Ontario, there are also many examples of superbly rehabilitated sites. There are several excellent golf courses, in places like London, Leamington and Fonthill. Corn is grown on rehabilitated agricultural land near Brantford. Previous pits near Chatham and Ottawa are now the sites of fine residential and recreational developments.

The operators involved in these projects have shown that with good planning, effort and some ingenuity, there's no limit to what can be done.

Ontario aggregate producers, in fact, are among the leaders in rehabilitation in North America. Your work here also compares very favorably to rehabilitation efforts in Europe, where the pressure to restore pits and quarries is extreme because of the population densities.

Having said that, however, I must mention something that concerns both my ministry and your organization. That is the amount in security deposits that still remains on account with the province.

The total rehabilitation security on deposit has grown over the years. Today, the accumulated funds amount to \$25-million.

That is money that should rightfully be reflected in rehabilitation and returned to the pockets of producers, instead of sitting in a government account.

I realize, of course, that a percentage of that total deposit will be reclaimed by producers who -- to this point -- have not had the opportunity to begin rehabilitating. They are still in the early stages of working their pits and quarries.

This still leaves many other producers with the opportunity to carry out progressive rehabilitation on parts of their sites where extraction operations are finished.

Early last year, when the government increased the maximum security requirement to \$6,000 per hectare that had been disturbed, the aim was to encourage more producers to perform rehabilitation.

I know you believe that it is of a far greater benefit to everyone if former pits and quarries are left in a condition where they can be used productively by others, than it is to have that money sitting in the bank with the land left in a derelict condition.

You may have heard ministry staff talk in the past about integrated resource management. More than perhaps anyone, I believe aggregate producers know what that concept means.

The members of this organization know that Ontario's natural resources are not there for the sole benefit of any single user, or group of users.

The same land you want to use for aggregate extraction may also be in demand for, say, agricultural or recreational purposes. It sometimes seems like a tug-of-war. But with solid site planning, and creative rehabilitation, there is no reason why these seemingly opposing interests can not be integrated.

No one has to tell you that the general public is increasingly concerned about having any kind of aggregate extraction take place.

On more than one occasion I have read and heard your industry's representatives emphasize the need for continuing to build up a solid industry track record of good rehabilitation. I know all of you realize how essential that is if we are going to convince the public of the importance of the aggregate industry.

I ask you to join me in encouraging producers who are not claiming money back from their security deposit to become more active in progressive rehabilitation.

For some, it will just be a matter of re-assigning employees and equipment during times where there is a lull in production. If they are not producing, they can be engaged in sloping banks, replacing soil or planting vegetation.

There is certainly no shortage of examples or plans for rehabilitating. Together, the ministry and producers have produced valuable studies and publications that are in use not only in Ontario, but across North America.

And there's more coming. In April, the ministry will release two new rehabilitation publications. One presents ideas for incorporating wildlife habitat and fish ponds in rehabilitation projects. The other provides information on rehabilitation techniques appropriate in northern Ontario.

But there is still a need for more research. A greater emphasis must be put on rehabilitating agricultural land. To help make this happen, my ministry has recently hired a rehabilitation specialist who will co-ordinate our efforts in this area.

The government is committed to the need for more -- and better -- rehabilitation. And I look to the members of this organization to provide the leadership in this area. Only you can show the public that you have respect for the land you are working and for the people who will still be there after you have finished.

Together, in this way, we can make those who question the need for aggregate operations, come to understand the importance of what you do.

Much has changed in the past 30 years. The aggregate industry has come a long way, with tremendous improvements in operating standards. New rehabilitation techniques minimize the impact of resource extraction on local communities and the environment.

I know your organization is committed to continuing these advances. Resource development can no longer take place without public scrutiny, but with this approach, the aggregate industry has every reason to look forward to the future with a great amount of optimism.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Government of Ontario
Publication

REMARKS BY

- S77 JAMES MCGUIGAN
PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT
TO THE
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

METRO TORONTO AND RÉGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
31ST INAUGURAL MEETING

NORTH YORK COUNCIL CHAMBERS
NORTH YORK, ONTARIO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, 1987
11:30 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good morning, and happy anniversary. The Minister was unable to be here today, but he asked me to pass on his warmest regards.

It is a great pleasure to be here today. This is, after all, a watershed event in the figurative sense, too.

We at the ministry see this as the 30th anniversary of a group of kindred spirits. We have many mutual concerns, and mutual satisfactions.

When the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority formed in 1957, it embarked upon a journey without end. That is perhaps the single most important thing we have in common.

There will never come a time when we can look out over Ontario and say, "There. We did it. We're finished." And then slap each other on the back, drink a toast to success, and go home.

But there will, from time to time, come occasions when we can look on our work with satisfaction, drink a toast to our successes -- and then get on with the job.

I think that this is such an occasion. Looking back over your first 30 years, I can see how the the concept of conservation evolved. Looking back even further, we can see how the need for conservation developed.

The natural resources of Ontario have always been part of its unique appeal. It was, after all, the richness of these resources -- the forests, the fish, the game -- that attracted settlers to this land in the 19th century.

In those days, there must have seemed no need for conservation programs. The forests were so huge, so seemingly limitless. They would always be there, no matter how many trees were cut down for wood.

The fish would always swim in the streams, no matter how many were caught for food. The forests would always be alive with game, and the streams and rivers would always flow.

So the pioneers cut trees, built wood homes and set up mill-wheels in the streams. And mankind made its mark.

Salmon vanished from blockaded streams. Rivers all but dried up in the summer droughts, and raged in the spring runoffs.

And gradually, as civilization crystallized out of the wilderness, a new realization crystallized along with it. A very solid, and sharp-edged truth -- that the resources are not limitless. That the land is fragile.

That is why we need conservation programs. And that is why the Conservation Authorities were initially formed and later amalgamated under your umbrella, to serve this huge urban area.

You have accomplished a lot, because the commitment has always been there. When the Authority came into existence on February 1, 1957, it hit the ground running.

The memory of a Hurricane Hazel was very fresh in people's minds then. The Hazel tragedy dramatically demonstrated the need for better flood control; the need for Conservation Authorities.

The new Conservation Authority quickly realized that flood control in the long run would mean a very extensive water conservation program.

Flood control has always been central to your mandate. There has always been a great deal of muscle-work and mind-work on water management.

Thanks to your hard work, the effects of flooding and erosion have been chopped back considerably.

Yet your efforts involve a lot more than water management. We have, during the past 30 years, seen parks and conservation areas for the public blossom on lands acquired for flood control.

In the first decade, the Heart Lake, Boyd and Albion Hills conservation areas became established and new ones, such as Claremont and Bruce's Mill, sprouted. They have been priceless gifts to the people of Metro Toronto, Peel, York, Durham and surrounding areas.

At the same time, programs in reforestation and wildlife habitat conservation branched off. The fish hatchery was built at Glen Haffy in those early years, and both fish and wildlife conservation assumed a high importance.

It was also in the first 10 years that the Authority made its first great strides in public education and involvement, with the establishment of the Albion Hills Conservation Field Centre, and the construction of Black Creek Pioneer Village.

And the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Foundation began its work in 1961, shepherding public donations of money and property into the grand effort.

In the second decade of its existence, the Authority continued flood control programs with the construction of the G. Ross Lord Dam and the smaller Milne and Stouffville Dams, as well as major flood control channels.

Meanwhile, other conservation goals continued to be realized. Over seven million trees were planted in reforestation programs in the second decade, on almost 3,000 hectares. Education programs put on weight, with projects such as the Boyd Conservation Education Complex.

Now the third decade is complete. The comprehensive watershed management plan is well under way. Flood warning and forecasting systems are better than ever, thanks to improved training and the power of the computer.

The recreational aspects of the conservation areas continue to be developed. As the greater Metro Toronto region grows into the 1990s, thanks to your work it will always be brushed with greens and blues.

You have enhanced the preservation of Ontario's historical heritage, with projects such as the visitor's centre addition to Pioneer Village, and similar efforts.

New lands have been acquired. Shoreline management projects are under way. Plans are being updated, computers are humming.

There is, undeniably still much to do. The areas you deal with are like our own responsibilities at the ministry. They are growing and changing.

The journey continues. Erosion control continues to be a concern, pollution continues to be a concern, storm water, flood control. It will always be that way.

But at this, the completion of decade three, there is also much to be proud of. This is an occasion to reflect upon what you have done, and toast your successes.

Don't be surprised if thousands of ordinary citizens -- the people this Authority has served so well for 30 years -- join in that celebration.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Province of Ontario

Season

NC REMARKS BY

-877 MARY MOGFORD
DEPUTY MINISTER
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO FOREST MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS
ANNUAL MEETING

THE FOUR SEASONS HOTEL
TORONTO, ONTARIO

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1987
7 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good evening. I am particularly pleased to be here tonight, because this meeting represents a milestone. In fact, it represents two milestones.

This is the seventh year since forest management agreements began to replace the old timber licence system in 1980. And it is the first annual FMA meeting that includes not only ministry people, but industry people as well.

To the industry people present, let me extend a very warm welcome. This program we are all involved in is a mature one now, and getting bigger. So it is appropriate that you be included in our annual banquet, meetings, and coffee-drinking marathon. Forest management under FMAs is, after all, a highly co-operative effort.

Yet co-operation was not always the norm, as I am sure you are all aware. Until 1962 forest management was the stated responsibility of the forest industry.

But by 1960 it was the perception of those in government, in general, the forest industry was not doing an effective job of regeneration and management.

As a result, in 1962 the Crown Timber Act was amended and the Province assumed full responsibility for regeneration.

But this arrangement tended to put forest products companies at cross-purposes with the ministry. Efficient and effective harvesting by the companies created problems and inefficiency in regeneration.

The Arsmson Report of 1976 took a critical look at forest management as it was then practised in Ontario. It was instrumental in the development of our present system, in that it identified the need for a co-operative approach to forest management.

As a result, the Crown Timber Act was amended in 1979 to include a section permitting the Minister to enter into forest management agreements, and the FMAs were born.

The idea has always been to provide for a continuous supply of forest products to the company, and to ensure the forests are harvested and managed on a sustained yield basis.

And it works. That is why the birth of the forest management agreements was such a tremendous step forward.

Their inception was a step into the future. For the first time, FMAs provided for responsible stewardship of the forests by the very companies that harvested them. With ministry guidance and funding support, that stewardship has steadily improved.

From the beginning, FMAs gave forest products companies a new set of responsibilities. The companies were faced with the tasks of silviculture, regeneration, site preparation and other obligations. And it is good to see that the companies have consistently exceeded the levels of performance achieved by government alone, before the advent of FMAs.

I would like to share with you some of the highlights of past performance. The first five-year reviews of FMAs, released in December of 1985, told quite a success story.

Those four original companies -- Abitibi Price Inc., Great Lakes Forest Products Ltd., E.B. Eddy Forest Products Ltd. and Spruce Falls Power and Paper Company -- had shown gratifying results.

They had, in conjunction with the ministry, increased regeneration over these five years by 43 per cent, with only a 15 per cent increase in harvest. Site preparation had increased by 30 per cent. Tending was up 285 per cent.

Let me assure you, those results pleased and impressed us all at the same time. When the next set of five-year reviews were completed, just recently in fact, the overall indications were once again positive.

Overall, in the areas reviewed, regeneration was up 29 per cent while actual harvest increased by only nine per cent. Tending increased 129 per cent, and site preparation was up 138 per cent.

And these initial results are just the beginning. The first few years of any new undertaking are a time for learning about, and adapting to, the new situation. But we are clearly succeeding.

We are committed to continued responsible management of this most precious resource and heritage. We are also committed to public openness about what we do.

For that reason, last summer we released to the public the audit of Ontario's forests, done at our request by Dean Gordon Baskerville of the Faculty of Forestry at the University of New Brunswick.

We are convinced that the actions we are initiating as a result of its constructive criticisms will, in the coming years, impact significantly on forest management in our province.

In fact, it was with that possibility in mind that the government requested the audit.

We understand the need to learn. The practice of forest management, after all, is only about 25 years old in northern Ontario.

We -- the companies and the ministry -- are all undergoing a process of growth, on the way to maturity.

With the first five-year reviews of FMAs showing the way, and with the Baskerville report shedding some light on the path, we have already begun to do some fine-tuning.

For example, one of Dean Baskerville's comments was that an administrative mindset, as he called it, must not get things bogged down. That issue has already been addressed in our 16-point Action Plan on Forest Management.

Senior ministry management is taking steps to make sure that systematic management does not stifle innovation.

These developments are evidence of the changes taking place within the ministry. They show how the relationships and roles of ministry FMA staff evolve with a maturing program.

I am confident that similar evolution is taking place within the forest companies, as they continue to adapt to the FMAs. Together, these changes bode well for the future.

Also, beginning in 1987 all timber management plans will contain clearer statements of objectives that are attainable and measureable -- something else that Dean Baskerville recommended.

These steps, and others in our action plan, are only the beginning of the next stage in the evolution of forest management in Ontario.

It is important for all of us, I think, to realize that not only have we only just begun; we have done so at the proper time.

We know that the old, natural forests of Ontario are at a major turning point. While there is an abundance of mature wood, the old forests are being depleted.

There is harvesting, that is true. But there is also tree disease, insects and the inevitable loss to fire. So as we harvest and regenerate, tend and protect, we are in fact creating the new, planned forests of the future.

In another half-century or less, we will be benefiting from our investment. The forests will be literally planned from the ground up.

When you stop to think about that, I think you will agree with me that it is a very big thought. It means that every decision we make now, every program we embark upon, will be crucial.

That is why we must continue to be careful and thoughtful in our planning. And we must continue to be willing to co-operate in order to let our planning reflect diversified interests.

Co-operation is what our forest management philosophy is all about. It was the philosophy behind the recently released Timber Management Guidelines for the Protection of Tourism Values -- which we see as a blueprint for co-operation between the forestry companies and the tourist industry.

It is also, of course, the philosophy behind the forest management agreements that we are all working so hard to make better.

And by looking at your schedule for the next day, I can see that you are in for some open and frank discussions. But that's good.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to meet and exchange information with others in the FMA program. You can also step back and take a fresh look at what we are striving to accomplish together.

With continued co-operation, we can and will continue to develop and fine-tune what I believe is already an eminently workable and mutually beneficial system.

It has already been responsible for improvements in planning and a beneficial increase in planting, tending and regeneration.

These are the things that ensure the continued health of the forests, and the economic health of Ontario's traditional resource industries.

I know that the benefits will continue to flow. Thanks to all your hard work, future generations will always have not only forest products, but the forests themselves.



Ministry of Natural Resources
Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

OPENING OF THE
OTTAWA BOAT AND SPORTSMEN'S SHOW

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1987
NOON

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. What with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters convention, which begins here tomorrow, and your dazzling boat and sportsmen's show, it seems Ottawa is the outdoor recreation capital of Ontario this week.

I am doubly grateful for your invitation, because I am actually here in two capacities.

First, I am here as an outdoor enthusiast. There is very little that I enjoy more than boating and angling -- either on the waters near my home down in the Niagara area, or in the Temagami area, where my family has had a get-away-from-it-all cottage for many years.

Before coming to Queen's Park, I was quite involved with the boating community in my area -- as the commodore of the Niagara Falls Boating Club, and a founding member of the Pilot Navigational Club. I've also enjoyed participating in and sponsoring yacht and power boat races.

In other words, I'm glad to have this opportunity to just look around, and see all the boats and other recreational equipment on display.

I also have an interest in seeing that Ontario's outdoor recreational opportunities are developed, maintained and enjoyed to their fullest potential. It is the best job I've ever had.

And it is in my capacity as Minister that I would, in the next few minutes, like to share with you some news about the new resident sport fishing licence; say something about boating safety; and remind you of six outdoor recreational opportunities that are all about one hour away from this very building.

Starting this year, almost every resident angler in Ontario will require a sport fishing licence -- either a \$10 annual licence, or the \$5 licence of four days.

This measure was not introduced without a lot of thought and preparation. A big part of our preparation was, of course, consultation with both individual anglers and representatives of anglers' groups. And what we found was that there were very few people opposed to the idea of a resident licence -- providing the revenue it generated was used to enhance Ontario's sport fishery.

Well, that is what's happening.

MNR already spends about \$30-million a year on its various fisheries programs. We expect the new licence will generate between \$8- and \$10-million in revenue every year. An equivalent amount will be allocated to my ministry to be spent on such things as fish habitat rehabilitation projects; the Community Fisheries Involvement Program; fish culture facilities; stocking programs; experimental fisheries management; and upgraded law enforcement.

My fisheries staff are very excited about these developments. They are dedicated to fisheries management, and they know that this infusion of extra money each year will have long-term beneficial effects on Ontario's fishery.

We are so anxious to get started on these new initiatives that we didn't even wait until this year to start on some of them. The week we began selling the licences, I announced the initiation of 35 projects. Many of these projects are seasonal in nature. If we had waited until revenue from the licences was coming in, we would have had to stall some of these projects for another year.

Five of these early projects are or will be undertaken in eastern Ontario.

- Construction will begin this spring to improve access to the Ottawa River. This is something local anglers have wanted for a long time.
- We will prepare a brochure showing the types of fish species in, and access routes to, lakes in the Tweed area -- an area that is already popular with some Ottawa residents.

- We have hired a community fisheries adviser in Napanee to help local sport-fishing clubs with their projects under the community fisheries involvement program, or CFIP. CFIP is obviously popular in eastern Ontario -- three clubs are already actively involved -- the Loyalist Sport Fishing Association, the Kingston Rod and Gun Club and the Greater Bob's Lake Association. These groups all have walleye culture ponds, growing fingerlings for the local lakes.
- Our fourth initiative using advance funds from the resident sport fishing licence was the assessment of lake trout spawning and spawning habitat in Big Rideau Lake. That job has now been completed, and the results are being examined.
- And the fifth project is a study of the feasibility of rehabilitating fish habitat in order to establish a yellow perch sport fishery along the St. Lawrence Parkway, between Brockville and Cornwall.

This is just the beginning, not only in your area, but across Ontario.

I don't have to tell you that boating and sport fishing are among the fastest growing recreational activities -- and industries -- in Ontario.

Our surveys show that about four and a half million Ontario residents and about one and a half million American visitors will spend some time boating in our province this year. And a quarter of Ontario's population -- that's more than two million people -- will go fishing at least once this year.

These are very impressive, immensely encouraging numbers.

But there are less encouraging numbers. They have to do with boating accidents. Unless all boaters are convinced that their water vehicles must be handled with the same care and caution as their road vehicles, nearly 100 boaters will drown in 1987.

That's what the statistics tell us will happen.

But we can break this statistical trend, along with others. Like the one that predicts more than half of these tragedies will involve powerboats shorter than 18 feet. Or that forty per cent of accidents will involve drinking and driving. Or that 75 per cent of the victims will not have been wearing life jackets or personal flotation devices.

These are sobering statistics. But the tragedy can be avoided if everyone works together to make this boating season a safe one.

To increase awareness on these boating hazards we have produced a pamphlet called Don't Rock the Boat, and it contains 10 essential safe-boating principles. Following them will help ensure that your boat trips will end as happily as they begin.

You can get a copy of the pamphlet in English or in French at MNR's exhibit here at the show, which I am personally inviting you all to visit. You will also be able to obtain copies of other pamphlets, which describe in detail the six provincial parks in eastern Ontario.

I'm talking about Sharbot Lake, Silver Lake, Murphys Point, Fitzroy, Rideau River, and Carillon provincial parks. Each is in a unique setting and boasts its own combination of natural beauty and man-made amenities. All of them have clean beaches, good fishing, friendly staff, boat launches, and fantastic campsites. You are welcome to come for just an afternoon swim and a picnic, or to pay a more extended visit. It's up to you.

Fitzroy is only half an hour west of here, on the Ottawa River.

About half an hour south of here, on Highway 16, is Rideau River Provincial Park. It boasts four beaches, two special fitness trails and a playground.

About an hour east on the Ottawa River near the Quebec border and the historic Long Sault Rapids, you will find Carillon Park. Carillon is what we call a "gateway park." That is, for many visitors coming from the east, this is their first taste of outdoor recreation in Ontario, and our staff go all out to ensure that that taste is a good one.

Silver Lake, Sharbot Lake and Murphys Point are all to the southwest of here, about an hour's drive along Highway 7.

A wide sandy beach and great swimming are the main attractions at Silver Lake. For the angler, there are both warm- and cold-water fish.

At Sharbot Lake, one of the park's several hiking trails leads up to a lookout point and an enchanting view of two lakes. The angling is for warm-water fish, and anyone catching yellow pickerel is asked to mention it to park staff, who are doing a survey of that species.

The last of these six local parks is the ruggedly beautiful Murphys Point Provincial Park, on Big Rideau Lake.

Being on the Rideau Waterway, Murphys Point Provincial Park is quite popular with boaters. There are several boat-in camping facilities -- which means they can only be reached by water. There is also a wide range of other on-shore, inland activities and attractions, including the historic Silver Queen mica mine, within the park boundaries.

I could talk for another hour about the wonders and pleasures to be found in these six parks. But I want to see the show, and I'm sure you do, too.

Before leaving, I would like to encourage you to visit the MNR exhibit. It's bigger and better than ever this year. Again, it features an interesting array of live animals, including fox, beaver, geese and bear. Finally, don't forget to pick up those seven brochures I mentioned. One might help save your life. The other six are sure to help you enjoy that life.

Enjoy the show.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Ressources naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ONTARIO FOREST INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONVENTION

WESTIN HOTEL
TORONTO, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 19, 1987

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good afternoon, and thank you for that warm welcome.

After I spoke to you last year, I thought that if you ever invited me back I would wear goalie's equipment for protection. You can deliver some pretty hard verbal slapshots.

However, I didn't bring the pads with me after all because I think we have shown this year that we make a pretty good team. We didn't always agree on all the plays -- I know some of you are still unhappy about Ontario's decision not to use chemical pesticides again this year -- but I was really proud of the way we hung together during the rough spots, especially on issues like the softwood export tax.

Your industry and my ministry are going to have to continue that kind of teamwork because we're facing some pretty significant challenges. These include the upcoming Class Environmental Assessment hearings, continuing to put the changes recommended by the Baskerville report into effect, and, of course, the effects of the export tax on softwood lumber and growing trade protectionism in countries around the world. These are just a few of the things we have to deal with.

On the issue of the new export tax on softwood lumber, I want to reassure you that the Ontario government has not softened in its opposition to this measure.

As you know, Ontario has -- from the beginning -- opposed the agreement between the federal government and the United States which put this tax into effect. We felt the preliminary decision by the U.S. Department of Commerce was flawed, and that the calculations used to establish a level of subsidy were grossly in error. And not only is this tax unfair, it also violates provincial sovereignty under the Constitution.

However, since Ottawa chose to ignore the arguments of Ontario -- and of your industry -- and has already put the tax into effect, we are now concentrating on trying to minimize its impact on Ontario.

A working group has been set up, under the wing of the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers, to try to determine replacement measures which could be an alternative to the export tax.

Ontario's position is that we will participate in these talks, and willingly provide any information about our forest programs that the working group needs. However, we have made it clear that we will not necessarily be bound by any decision the group reaches, or be obliged to follow any course of action that it prescribes.

We are still having other meetings with the federal government and officials from the other provinces to determine how money collected from this tax is to be distributed to the provinces.

I can tell you now, it will be months before any of this is resolved.

Ontario is still examining, in concert with the other provinces, the impact of this tax. And we are looking at the sorts of things the provinces might do to help soften the blow.

However, until we know what -- if any -- tax replacement measures can be used, and how much money will be returned to the province, it is very difficult to be more specific about what is going to happen.

There is, perhaps, one positive thing to come out of this export tax mess. All the news coverage the issue has received has forced the general public into an awareness of how vitally important forestry is to the economy of this province, and to this country.

It has always disturbed me how little most people, especially those in southern Ontario, and even quite a few in Northern Ontario, really know about our forest resources.

This is even more disturbing when you think about the way that public opinion has become such a major force in shaping the actions of government and industry.

I am not quibbling with the public's right to have a say in how our resources are managed -- I think that is vitally important. These resources, after all, do belong to the taxpayers. I just wish that the general public was better informed about what our resources are all about and what is really happening with their management.

I believe it is in the best interest of the government, industry and the public itself to have a population that is fully informed about forest management and the forest industry. A well-informed, knowledgeable public can be an extremely valuable ally in forest management.

You may have seen some commercials on television recently, promoting Canada's forestry industry. They are part of a National Forest Awareness campaign launched last month in Montreal. This campaign is a major, five-year effort funded jointly by the federal and provincial governments to increase public awareness of the importance of Canada's forests.

A related campaign is under way here in Ontario. It will concentrate on explaining effective forest management -- what it means, how it is achieved and who it benefits. We will be talking about the roles of the various partners -- government, industry and the public, and how those roles come together.

I believe these joint campaigns will have a major effect on improving the general public's knowledge of our forests. But I think the campaigns would be even more effective if members of the Ontario forest industries were to strengthen their own public education programs.

I must say I was pleased to see the Ontario Forestry Association's efforts in this regard earlier this month at its convention at the Skyline Hotel in Toronto. Much of the discussion there centred on the fact that southern Ontario's rural forest areas are under intense pressure from a variety of competing users.

Rather than accepting this as an endless battle between conflicting interests, the Ontario Forestry Association's message was that this situation should be viewed as a challenge. Only through a wise program of integrated resource management, drawing on a public that has been educated about our forests, can we hope to make the best use of our remaining rural forests.

I know that, as an organization, your association has also worked hard to increase public awareness of the forest industry in Ontario. Over the years, a number of individual firms have developed some excellent campaigns.

I think it would be terrific if your industry could increase your public education campaigns in a way that would complement the federal and provincial strategies which are already under way. In today's environment we need more than occasional campaigns targeted on specific issues. We need to create a sustained program to dispel myths, and to provide facts to the public.

It was this conviction -- that we need to provide the public with all the facts -- which prompted me, in 1985, to release the Provincial Auditor's report on forestry management in its entirety. And that is why my ministry called in Dean Gordon Baskerville from the University of New Brunswick to prepare an independent audit of our forest practices.

Last October, we released Dean Baskerville's report and a detailed action plan outlining our proposed response in 16 key areas. I feel we have made tremendous progress in implementing that action plan during the past four months.

In fact, we acted immediately on Dean Baskerville's suggestion that we create a new senior level position -- that of Provincial Forester -- to oversee our forest programs. Ken Armson has accepted that post and, quite frankly, I can't think of anyone better for the job.

In his new role, Ken has been freed from some of his administrative duties to focus on critical issues facing forest management in Ontario.

We were very fortunate at the ministry to have Dennis Schafer on hand to step into Ken's old position as head of the Forest Resources Group.

Many of our other officials are working closely with some of you on projects like the Forest Resource Inventory and the wood allocation problem.

Both of these issues require action at the most senior executive level of industry and government. In some cases, they will require the development of a new perspective on long-held, company-to-company or management-labor relations. Nevertheless, these are concerns that must be addressed if we are to make the most efficient use of our Crown forests.

Ideally, I would like to see them resolved before the Class Environmental Assessment Hearings begin later this year.

The Class E.A. hearings offer government and industry another chance to show the public how effective forest management is being carried out in this province.

One of the things we will be talking about at the hearings is the success of the Forest Management Agreements.

I see a growing acceptance of the philosophy behind these agreements -- that industry should be the stewards of the forests it profits from. And I look forward to the day when every person in the forest industry -- from senior management down to the most recently-hired summer student -- also embraces that philosophy.

The Forest Management Agreements are a great example of how government and industry can work together as partners. The Class E.A. hearings will give us a chance to convey that message to our other partner -- the public.

The hearings will also provide us with an opportunity to dispel myths like "we're running out of forests," and to answer the public's concerns over the environment.

They will include a discussion of our aerial spraying program to fight insect infestations in many parts of the province.

As you let me know quite clearly at this meeting last year, the use of chemical insecticides is one of the things your industry and my ministry doesn't always agree on.

We announced last November that MNR will only be using the biological pesticide Bt in our aerial spraying program in 1987. We will review this position each year, but the fact that Bt has an adequate success rate, combined with the minimal environmental hazards it poses, appears to give it an edge over other -- more toxic -- pesticides.

That does not mean, however, that chemical insecticides do not have a role to play in forest management. My ministry has been asked by the federal government to participate in chemical research trials on a variety of chemical pesticides. We are reviewing this request and I expect to be able to advise you of the government's decision shortly.

These trials would expose a number of chemical compounds to a broad spectrum of tests. Such areas as effectiveness, toxicity, environmental impact and safety for the people handling them need to be researched.

It is important to the future of the forest industry that we have as broad a range of insecticides and herbicides at our disposal as possible to protect and manage our forest resources. At the same time, however, we must be able to prove to a questioning public that these tools of forest management are not going to do more harm than good over the long haul.

The general public's concern for the environment must not be taken lightly. One public opinion poll after another has underlined the importance that Canadians put on clean water, clean air and unpolluted soil. Who would argue with those priorities?

That is why public education is so important. When clinical research and field tests can be proven to support the use of new types of pesticides to help manage our forests, without unduly endangering the environment, the public should be made aware of it.

After all, it was through precisely these kinds of tests that we discovered the biological agent Bt, which we use so widely for pest control today. It is to our benefit if we make the public aware of these advances.

One thing Ontarians are very aware of is acid rain. You have probably been wondering about recent news stories quoting a "leaked" federal study and suggesting that stunted tree growth in Ontario and Quebec is linked to acid rain. Some of those stories accused the forest industry of keeping a -- quote -- "strange silence" -- unquote -- by not doing more to lobby air polluters to clean up their acts.

The leaked study was actually a first draft of a report the federal government commissioned on acid rain, and it wouldn't really be fair for me to comment on it until I have seen the final report.

However, the information contained in that first draft doesn't really say anything that hasn't already been well documented. We already know that trees in certain parts of Ontario and Quebec close to sources of pollution have reduced growth, and that tree growth may decline as a result of various factors and stress.

Acid rain is an alarming and costly problem, but I can not say -- based on this first draft -- that this latest study sheds any new light on the subject.

At the same time, I don't want to minimize the threat that acid rain could pose to our forests and to your livelihoods. I encourage you to support Ontario's efforts to curb acid rain and I urge you, as an industry, to lobby your colleagues and politicians both at home and in Washington to take action on this problem.

Issues like acid rain and the softwood export tax illustrate that we can not ignore or escape the effects of what is happening in the greater world around us. Even if it were possible, it would not be wise to allow ourselves to become so immersed in the day-to-day demands of our individual operations that we lose sight of our place in the larger world.

Similarly, we must make sure that those outside of the forest industry are aware of us, and the importance of what we do. Only through education, can we develop the kind of understanding and mutual respect that is essential if the forest industry, the public and the government are going to get the most from our forests.

I know we can do it, if we work together.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

REMARKS BY

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THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF ANGLERS AND HUNTERS
ANNUAL MEETING

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 20, 1987

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

Today I'd like to talk to you about how we use Ontario's natural resources. As true conservationists, you know that use is an essential part of conservation. In fact, the World Conservation Strategy makes it clear that conservation is wise use. No one knows that better than resource users.

I'm a resource user. All my life I've hunted, I've fished, I've paddled, and I've hiked. And, give or take some blackfly attacks and the occasional outboard motor that wouldn't start, I've enjoyed every minute of it.

In the early summer of 1985, I took on a new challenge in the outdoor field when I became Minister of Natural Resources. It's quite a job, and many times I think it is one of the most satisfying things that I have ever done.

It's a job that takes you places, and gets you doing things that you never expected to do. I'd like to tell you about one of my recent experiences.

I was fishing for Atlantic salmon on a well-known Canadian river in New Brunswick. I paid \$30 for a licence, and I was required to use a guide. Of course, I caught the biggest fish of the day. But do you know what I brought home? A TAG. A tag saying I had caught a 20-pound salmon.

Why didn't I bring home the fish? Because nobody can keep adult salmon out of that river. Keeping one adult fish could hurt the reproductive potential of the entire run of salmon.

That's why you have a guide. Not to make sure you catch lots of fish. But to help you release them properly. The guide doesn't use a net because the mesh might injure the fish's eyes. Instead, when you catch a fish, he takes the canoe to shore and -- without touching the fish or taking it out of the water -- twists the hook out of its mouth and lets it go. He estimates the weight, and gives you a tag.

Being from Ontario, that was an eye-opener for me. A resource is in pretty bad shape when you can't even keep ONE fish. It really brought home the message that if we don't use our resources wisely, they won't be there for our children and grandchildren to enjoy.

I take that message personally because I am a resource user. And I think that the Premier may have chosen me for the Natural Resources Ministry because he knew I am a conservationist who believes in wise use.

As Minister of Natural Resources, I am a resource allocator -- someone who must consider the views and interests of all kinds of people and groups who want to use our resources. It's my job to balance the interests and make decisions or forge compromises that are both valid and acceptable.

That brings a lot of people to my office to visit. They talk to me. They often leave me a written statement of their ideas.

I hadn't occupied my office for very long before I met with a delegation from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters -- led by Ken Lounsbury and Rick Morgan.

I still have the position paper they left with me. When I first read it, I was impressed by the logic of your ideas, and the sound arguments you used to support your positions. You -- as resource users -- know what wise use is.

So I'm going to use your own position paper as the basis for what I have to say. I'm not going to go over every last detail. Otherwise I'd be up here all day, and you wouldn't get a chance to ask us any questions. So I'll discuss things under three headings -- fishing, hunting and other concerns.

I'll start with fishing.

In the field of game fish, we have received and considered your opinions on lake trout, muskie and yellow pickerel, which some of you call walleye. There are many changes coming that will lead to better management of those species. If you look at the latest summary of the fishing regulations, you will find two full pages of regulations that will come into force shortly. The OFAH has provided valuable support for these essential changes.

In commercial fishing, modernization is continuing. Your involvement as an organization will be growing.

Early next month, four representatives of the angling community will be meeting with four representatives of the commercial fishing industry. The first goal is to lay the groundwork for handling the incidental catch of game fish.

And, of interest to both commercial fishermen and anglers, our fisheries assessment review is continuing. Lake Erie has been completed. The next lake on the list is Lake Ontario, a lake of great interest to anglers.

I welcome your involvement in that review and I understand your executive has already been approached to nominate a member to the steering committee.

The last item on my fisheries list is the very first item in your position paper -- the need for a resident sport fishing licence. It's clear that the OFAH believes that the resource users share the responsibility for conserving the resource. This means contributing directly to programs which help to conserve the resource.

I agree completely -- that was why I introduced the sport fishing licence.

We have already started some fisheries projects using advance funds on the new resident licence. Here are just a few examples:

- For the next fiscal year, we will spend an additional \$1 1/4-million for stream rehabilitation across Ontario.
- We will raise Atlantic salmon and Skamania trout at Normandale hatchery, at a start-up cost of \$100,000.
- We will expand the Community Fisheries Involvement Program -- to include larger projects in municipalities. For example, we have already contributed \$50,000 to a fish hatchery in Sault St. Marie. That project has been delayed slightly because of site and design difficulties, but will go ahead in the new fiscal year.
- We will fund a major study of the St. Lawrence River, an under-used fishery that has tremendous potential.

As you can see, it's a wide-ranging list that will continue to grow. In our next fiscal year, we expect to receive an additional \$8.2-million allocated for our fisheries programs. This is the equivalent to the amount we expect to collect from the licence.

We know where the money is coming from and we know where we are going to use it -- on improving our fisheries.

Of course, I'm not asking you to take that on faith. In the near future, I will be appointing a Fisheries Advisory Council to advise me on ways to spend the additional funds. The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters will be represented on that council.

OK, now for hunting.

I'll start with deer. With a herd that's doubled in the six years since the introduction of the selective harvest, deer is always good news. And the news is getting even better.

Last year, we increased the number of antlerless permits for deer by 49 per cent.

Indeed, 82 per cent of the deer hunters who applied for permits in 1986 were successful. It would appear that in 1987 we will be able to continue to increase the number of antlerless deer tags available in several units.

In the controlled deer hunt areas, 9,774 out of 13,379 applicants -- 76 per cent -- received a permit.

More good news -- we've also been able to lengthen deer seasons and in southern Ontario we've managed to establish 34 controlled deer hunts on an annual basis.

All of us know that selective harvesting has played an important part in improving deer hunting. The selective harvests for both deer and moose are now a permanent part of my ministry's management programs. We will fine tune and modify our system -- but it will remain a selective harvest.

We've already made some changes. In response to requests from hunters, we re-instated party hunting for calf moose last year.

This spring, my staff will begin a review of issues related to moose hunting opportunities available within our moose program.

We will be establishing advisory committees to assist in developing recommendations regarding a variety of issues within the context of our current selective harvest system.

This will not be a review aimed at establishing a new moose management program. It will be an effort to improve the existing program and educate hunters about how the system works.

The main issues revolve around ways to improve moose hunter opportunities and improve everyone's enjoyment of the hunt.

Much of the discussion will focus on moose tag allocation. Preferred pooling does not necessarily guarantee that a hunter will get a tag every second year -- even if they apply on a regular basis. There's been some misunderstanding about that, and we would like to clear it up.

In the context of a selective harvest, we will consider all the options -- from a completely random draw to lifetime pooling systems in which hunters have permanent numbers and can eventually be guaranteed a tag if they continue to participate in the hunt.

If there is a consensus on a recommendation that results from the review process, then changes could be made in time for the 1988 season.

Because there is the possibility of changes in the moose tag allocation system, we will not be making changes in the antlerless permit draw for deer in 1987.

As you may have heard, I have announced changes in bear hunting which will begin this spring. Over the past few months the pieces have begun falling in place for a bear management program that will give Ontario's black bear true big game status.

If all the legislation and regulations are approved, hunters will be limited to one bear licence per year in most areas. There will be new controls on hunting methods, non-resident hunting, on baits, and on the use of dogs.

It was nearly seven years ago that the OFAH gave my ministry a detailed outline of your ideas for bear management. You will find many of your ideas reflected in our new bear management program.

The final item under hunting is the use of blaze orange. You have advocated mandatory use of blaze orange as the best way of improving Ontario's excellent hunter safety record. We have taken the first move in that direction by introducing legislation that will allow regulations to be passed that require the use of blaze orange.

In addition to hunting and fishing, your position paper included items that I put under the heading of "other." There are some very important things there, including habitat, research programs, wild turkeys, poaching, and amendments to the Game and Fish Act.

Two of these can be dealt with briefly. The fish and wildlife research programs you were once worried about losing are still intact, and will continue to flourish in the future.

The success of our co-operative efforts with wild turkey re-introduction has surprised us all. Most of you are aware of the hunt this spring in Napanee district. I'm pleased to announce that notifications were mailed out just this week to 1,000 applicants who were successful in a random draw, and will participate in Ontario's first wild turkey hunt since the early 1900s.

The wild turkeys have been stocked in six MNR districts, and the birds have done extremely well, especially in Napanee where approximately 2,000 may be present. I am optimistic that the success of the birds will continue to accelerate, and more hunts will be possible in the very near future.

I'll spend a bit more time talking about habitat. I know you have a long track record of promoting wetland conservation. And you're still working at it. Your current television commercial on wetlands is reaching a wide audience.

My ministry has made wetlands a priority for many years, and it is now becoming a government-wide priority. There are a number of initiatives involved.

- A draft provincial policy on wetlands will be announced later in the year.
- Ministry staff are working with other ministries to implement the Premier's promise to extend tax rebates to conservation lands, particularly wetlands, and,
- My ministry is using the \$1-million that we generated through agreements with Ducks Unlimited and Wildlife Habitat Canada last September to acquire and secure wetlands.

Forests are another habitat of interest to your group. Lance Males, your fish and wildlife specialist, has been participating in the evaluation of forest management and wildlife. This review is one result of our look at forestry in Ontario and the wildlife component is already well under way.

As conservationists, we all know that good habitat is the essential thing needed to produce a bounty of wildlife. And we are aware that poaching is opposite of wise use. Conservationists never make excuses for poachers.

In my ministry's Huronia district, for example, deer are plentiful. But when district staff became aware of the extent of commercial poaching, they came up with a strategy that led to a number of arrests. This is probably the best way to educate people who might treat the law lightly. I know you feel that increasing the number of conservation officers is the only way to control poaching. Over the next two years, I would like to see my ministry's enforcement staff grow by 10 per cent.

And there's more to come on enforcement. Your position paper suggested the need for amendments to the Game and Fish Act, but you hinted that as a Minister in a minority government, it wasn't too likely that I would tackle legislation.

But that was a year and a half ago. I think you know now that this government hasn't hesitated to tackle issues.

In December, I introduced amendments to the Game and Fish Act. I do regret, however, that our Game and Fish Amendment Act (Bill 166) was not passed before the winter session ended on February 12. I want you to know that I intend to re-introduce the amendments during this next session and will be pushing hard to get them passed for all of us.

To mention another issue we have met head on, I made a decision that removed most of the prime recreational hunting areas from the new national park on the Bruce Peninsula. Many of you weren't too happy with the compromise and are not about to let me forget it. That's good, because I intend to remind people about that compromise when it comes time to regulate new provincial parks.

But let's go back to the proposed amendments to the Game and Fish Act for a moment. When passed, these amendments will affect many areas, including enforcement:

- Conservation officers will have more powers to search for documentary evidence of poaching, and it will be an offence not to stop when a conservation officer requests it.
- For the first time, conservation officers will be able to lay charges for fish and game taken illegally outside Ontario, and,
- Commercial poachers will face fines of up to \$50,000 and two-year jail sentences.

Those changes will encourage wise use of our resources. Good enforcement is good conservation.

And that brings me to the end of your position paper. If you don't mind me saying so, it may be time for a new one since there isn't much unfinished business left in the old one.

So I'd like to conclude by helping you get started on your new paper by making some suggestions for your new agenda. One is that my ministry needs your continued support in taking messages to people.

- On the resident sport fishing licence, I asked you to convince people that we should pay when we use a resource. Thank you for your help.
- Another idea you could help to promote is the concept of multiple use of our resources. The idea of dividing things up for the exclusive use of any one group or interest is a thing of the past.
- And finally, I would like to see more emphasis put on children -- the next generation.

I have a personal interest in that. In the last few years, I've realized that even though I enjoy catching fish, there's something I enjoy more. That's seeing kids catch fish.

I want good resource management so that there will be fish around for the next generation to catch and eat. Along with members of the OFAH, I want the next generation to know that it's right to use the resource, to understand that conservation is wise use.

My ministry has a number of programs that can be useful to you. We have Project WILD, a program that teaches the teachers how to bring wildlife education into their curriculum. My ministry also has the Community Wildlife Involvement Program and the Community Fisheries Involvement Program. CWIP and CFIP projects can be tailored to children. Any one of you here can take the initiative to do that.

This year is of particular significance. My ministry is inviting your participation in Wildlife '87. This is a national celebration that commemorates the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the wildlife sanctuary at Last Mountain Lake in Saskatchewan.

That was the first wildlife sanctuary in North America. Last Mountain Lake -- with its controlled hunt of waterfowl -- remains an excellent example of good wildlife management and multiple use of resources.

I encourage you to get involved. Participate at the club level or as individuals. Link your Community Wildlife Involvement Program projects to Wildlife '87 and get people involved. We've come a long way in the first hundred years of conservation. 1987 marks the start of the second century. Let's get it off to a strong start.

On the same topic -- Wildlife '87 -- let me end these remarks with a strong finish -- the strongest I can think of.

As you know, the Ministry of Natural Resources is also celebrating Wildlife '87 by naming a conservationist of the month for each month of the year.

It is entirely appropriate that I present the winner of the February award at this particular gathering. He is a member of the OFAH, a man you all know and respect, a man who represents through his more than 30 years of dedication to conservation the ideals and principles of the OFAH.

In the 1940s, he joined the Junior Copper Cliff Rod and Gun Club. Since then, he has steadily moved up to become one of the most forceful, enthusiastic leaders in conservation in Ontario.

He was vice president, treasurer and resolution chairman for OFAH Zone 2 in 1970, an OFAH board member from 1969 to 1970, moose committee chairman from 1974, first vice chairman of the OFAH from 1978 to 1980 -- I'm mentioning just a few of his achievements -- OFAH president for three years and a director-at-large of the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

I am referring, of course, to Doug Ogston -- the very honourable member of the OFAH from Copper Cliff, Ontario.

Doug, please come up here and let me have the pleasure of handing you this award.

Before I hand this plaque over, let me just read the inscription: ". . . for his enthusiasm and forceful leadership in ensuring that Ontarians have access to their natural resources and use them wisely."

If we had more room on this plaque, we would also have said that Doug may be forceful, but he is always a gentleman, that he has a remarkable ability to see issues clearly, to cut through the paper and tinsel to the heart of whatever issue is under consideration.

He has the ability to convince, to keep committees on track and to negotiate strongly and fairly. People like Doug are part of the reason that the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters are one of the best conservation organizations in North America today -- and why Ontario is a leader in the field of wildlife management.

He is one of the reasons natural resource users have what they have today, here in Ontario.

Congratulations, Doug.



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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE
CONFERENCE ON WETLANDS IN NIAGARA

BROCK UNIVERSITY
ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1987

9:00 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good morning, and thank you for inviting me to open today's conference on wetlands in the Niagara Peninsula.

In the next few minutes, I'd like to set the tone for this seminar by looking briefly at where our wetlands have been, and where they're going.

Where they've been is fairly obvious. They're disappearing. As you know, southern Ontario could once lay claim to two million hectares of wetlands. Today, more than 70 per cent of these wetlands are gone.

Here in southern Ontario -- and especially here in the Niagara Peninsula -- we live in the very heart of the most urbanized, the most highly-developed, and at the same time, the most fertile land perhaps in all Canada. This is prime real estate.

Yet a lot of it, at one time, was wetland.

The early settlers of southern Ontario dismissed those bogs and swamps and fens with one brief maxim: Wetland is wasteland.

Well, far from being wasteland, we now know wetlands offer many, though often unseen, benefits.

They offer habitat for a wide range of valuable and unique animal and plant species.

They are a moderating influence in times of flood and storm.

They are a natural water purifier, one that filters chemicals before they reach our main water sources.

They are a natural buffer to protect shorelines from erosion.

To those first generations of Ontarians, wetlands were an obstacle to progress.

How could they have foreseen that today, wetlands are a defence against many of the consequences of progress?

Wetlands haven't had a very encouraging past. But they do have a hopeful future. I'd like to tell you where the province is going with our wetlands.

And on that subject, I expect that the question uppermost in everyone's mind here today is, "What's happening with the provincial wetlands policy?"

As you know, discussion about a wetlands policy began when a paper, called "Towards a Wetland Policy for Ontario", was tabled in the Legislature back in 1981.

Then in 1984, my ministry put forward a document called "Guidelines for Wetlands Management in Ontario". These were guidelines which were to be incorporated into municipal planning.

Those guidelines are part of the process that is leading us to a policy statement under the Planning Act.

Right now, an interministerial committee involving four provincial ministries is working to co-ordinate development of the policy.

The process of formulating a draft policy is a lengthy one, as anyone who has been involved with the foodland preservation and mineral aggregates policies can attest.

The most important reason for this is the need for exhaustive public consultation.

This is because all kinds of people, agencies, and organizations will be affected by the policy. They include landowners, planners, government, and other people who have a stake in the resource. They all have the right to be heard.

And the interministerial committee is obliged to hear them, because only by considering the viewpoints of all the parties affected, will it come up with a policy that really works.

Let me give you an example of the complex issues that have been unearthed through the consultation process.

These issues came to light when the wetlands guidelines were sent to all 843 Ontario municipalities.

The municipalities have asked some thoughtful questions:

- What's to be done about compensating landowners?
- How will the policy be enforced? Zoning by-laws offer wetlands some protection, but municipalities have no legislative base to restrict draining and filling.
- How does the policy affect wetland conservation measures already put in place by municipalities?
- What about the impact wetlands protection will have on farmland? In particular, how will the province deal with issues such as drainage, which have a direct bearing on the agricultural industry?
- Will the policy need to be altered in order to apply it to northern Ontario, which has its own, unique set of circumstances?
- Who does what? Conservation authorities, provincial and federal agencies, municipalities, special interest groups -- what role will each play?

As you can imagine, the interministerial committee has its hands full working on these questions.

Central to its task, the committee must go step-by-step and consider these questions. By the time the policy is framed -- by the time the public has an opportunity to review it -- by the time it is included under the Planning Act -- will it work? Is it clear? Is it fair? Is it consistent -- yet flexible enough to meet the hundreds of individual circumstances that are bound to arise?

And that's why the framing of a provincial policy statement involves so much time and so many people.

Bear in mind this doesn't just involve the Ministry of Natural Resources. The interministerial committee consists of four provincial ministries -- and will involve many more agencies -- because wetlands policy crosses many jurisdictions.

Let me give you some examples of the many paths this policy will cross, just within the provincial government.

- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is involved because it administers the Planning Act, under which the policy will be included.
- The Ministry of Natural Resources is involved because it is responsible for management of Ontario's natural resources.
- The Ministry of the Environment is involved because of the issue of water quality.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Food is concerned with the availability of foodland -- which, of course, is one of the uses to which wetlands can be put.
- The Ministry of Revenue will certainly be consulted on the question of compensation for landowners.

And on and on.

So when will the committee have a draft policy ready?

I anticipate one could be released for public review towards the end of this year.

The review process to follow requires at least six months: for the public to comment, and the committee to act on those comments and submit a draft policy to Cabinet for legislative approval.

That review period is yet another chance for your input. And time-consuming as it may be, I wouldn't have it any other way.

Now, I know many of you here are chafing at the bit. You've had enough talk, and you're anxious to get on with it. Believe me -- so am I.

That's why the Ministry of Natural Resources -- and other ministries with an interest in wetlands -- isn't standing idly by and waiting for the policy before we do something to secure our remaining important wetlands.

For starters, the Premier has announced a short-term solution to the pressing question of landowner compensation. He has said the 60-per-cent rebate for property tax of agricultural land will be extended to many heritage lands, such as Class I and II wetlands.

And he also said the province is now reviewing the best way to ease the property tax burden over the long term. Changes will be in place by 1989.

My ministry has not waited for a draft policy in order to get started on another big job -- the job of identifying and documenting our most valuable wetlands.

We are now going into our fifth year of the wetlands inventory.

Our major tool in getting important wetlands on the record books has been the evaluation system. This system was the result of a co-operative program between the federal and provincial governments. One of its important background documents was a wetland evaluation plan produced by the Federation of Ontario Naturalists. Thank you for making our job easier.

Here in the Niagara area, 38 wetlands have been evaluated as being of provincial significance.

These lands will get first priority when we are securing wetlands.

How we go about securing them is the third initiative on which my ministry is working right now.

We're looking at the various methods by which these lands can be secured and retained in their natural state -- and there are many ways to accomplish that, aside from outright purchase.

Methods being investigated include management agreements, conservation easements and bequests, among others.

Whatever forms these agreements may take, we are already prepared with funds.

My ministry has earmarked \$250,000 a year for securing and managing wetlands in the 1987-88 fiscal year.

We made this decision late last year as part of agreements we signed with Ducks Unlimited and Wildlife Habitat Canada.

The other organizations are also putting money into a pot that amounts to a total of \$1-million a year.

Some of those funds will be used to secure areas such as Class I and II wetlands; staging areas for waterfowl; wetlands with the potential to produce waterfowl, and areas of natural and scientific interest.

Some will also be used to develop and manage our wetlands effectively, because securement is only half the story in protecting a dynamic ecosystem.

This is yet another activity my ministry has undertaken without waiting for a draft wetlands policy.

So these are our major initiatives:

- studies of compensation,
- classification of the actual wetlands themselves,
- co-operative efforts to secure our most important wetlands.

You can see how these pursuits will have us poised to act as soon as -- even before -- the policy is approved under the Planning Act.

We can't hope to save every wetland left in Ontario. But we can try to save the most important and most significant ones.

We're well on the way to completing an inventory of wetlands. And we're figuring out ways to make the conservation of wetlands attractive to the owners.

What we're doing now is spadework. It may appear to be piecemeal, but things are falling into place. When the wetlands policy is in place -- we'll know what to do, how to do it, and we'll have the tools to get it done.

The system is deliberately cautious, deliberately thorough. When all the checks and balances are finally added up, we'll have a cohesive wetlands policy that really works to the advantage of naturalists, hunters, bird-watchers, municipal planners, farmers -- everyone who cares about wetlands.

In the meantime, the biggest job we have to do still lies ahead.

The most important people we have to persuade of the value of wetlands, are the people who own it.

We have to teach the landowners of Ontario that the old maxim, "wetland is wasteland" is outdated and just plain wrong.

In the classroom, the home, and the workplace, we need to jar people out of their indifference to a resource that quietly offers so much, yet demands so little.

It's up to you and me to help people understand they have a personal stake in retaining wetlands.

In so doing, I suspect we'll accomplish more than any amount of lobbying, or any piece of legislation, could ever hope to achieve.

I thank you all for your interest, your energy, and your support of our common goal.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ON THE

APPOINTMENT OF THE ONTARIO
SHORELINE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

TO

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

AT

LIGHTHOUSE POINT, ONTARIO

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1987

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



I am very happy to be here with you today. This is a very appropriate setting to talk about another initiative in my ministry's long-term program for managing the Great Lakes shoreline.

I am pleased to announce the members of the first Ontario Shoreline Management Advisory Council. In setting up this independent advisory council, my ministry is implementing yet another in the sequence of recommendations, contained in the report of the Shoreline Management Review Committee.

That committee, chaired by my able parliamentary assistant, Jim McGuigan, made fundamental recommendations for finding a long-term solution to shoreline problems. My ministry, along with the Ministries of Municipal Affairs, Treasury and Economics, have worked hard to implement those recommendations quickly.

Nine people, representing the Great Lakes from Lake Superior to the St. Lawrence Seaway, will sit on the Ontario Shoreline Management Advisory Council.

They will be responsible for seeking public opinion to ensure that the public continues to play a major role in advising my government on shoreline management planning.

They not only represent all of the Great Lakes, but they have a wide variety of backgrounds. They come from universities, from the public and private sectors and from conservation authorities. They have interests ranging from environmental issues to sailing.

The chairman of the advisory council will be Mr. Shannon Olson, the vice-chairman of the Essex Region Conservation Authority and a member of the McGuigan Committee.

He will bring continuity to the advisory council, as well as offering his detailed knowledge about the problems on all the Great Lakes shoreline areas, including Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie. Mr. Olson is also a former Warden of Essex County.

Patricia Petersen will be the vice-chair of the council. She is acting director of Urban Studies at the University of Toronto. She is a former member of the Scarborough Planning Board. Her work on that board included dealing with the problems of the Scarborough Bluffs area, and she has a special interest in western Lake Ontario. And, in case you are wondering, I've been assured that she is not related to the Premier.

The other seven members of the committee are:

- Alex Harry, a lawyer and former mayor of Sault Ste. Marie. Mr. Harry will represent Lake Superior from Sault Ste. Marie to the north.
- John Jeffs, the vice-president of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers. Mr. Jeffs is from the Collingwood area and has a wide knowledge of the problems on Georgian Bay. He will represent the concerns of cottage owners.
- Dr. Reid Kreutzwiser of Guelph University. Dr. Kreutzwiser also was a member of the Shoreline Management Review Committee. He represents the academic community and further ensures continuity between the work of the review committee and the council.
- Howard Langan of Vanastraa, near Lake Huron. Mr. Langan is a sailing enthusiast and will represent the public at large.
- Tom Miller, vice-president of the Turkey Point Ratepayers' Association and the North Shore Coalition. He represents community concerns from both those Lake Erie locations.
- Paul Tripp, chairman of the Lower Trent Conversation Authority, representing the eastern portion of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence Seaway.
- Joanne Wintemute, a resident of Niagara Falls, representing the Niagara area and the public at large.

This advisory council will hold at least four public meetings a year in different communities along the Great Lakes. Public concerns and recommendations from those meetings will be contained in the council's annual report, which will be submitted directly to me.

The council is a very important part of the comprehensive plan the Government of Ontario has been putting together.

As we all know, up to this time, there has not been a provincial policy for the control of shoreline development, even though high water levels have been recorded on the Great Lakes in the 1950s, in the 1970s, and now again in the 1980s.

We have now taken the lead in administering long-term planning. The advisory council, and other recent measures, are not just a flash-in-the-pan. They will not vanish as soon as water levels go down again.

We are committed to long-standing programs whether water levels are on the rise or fall. And as we are all well aware, each fluctuation causes a whole new set of problems.

A dock that is underwater today might be high and dry during the next low water cycle.

Just let me recap some of the measures we have already put in place. We are hard at work, with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, on a joint policy statement to encourage consistency in managing the shoreline.

Mapping is continuing, and will be expanded. Conservation authorities have been given an expand role to include responsibility for shoreline management.

The annual level of funding is now set at \$4.5-million for a loans program to shoreline property owners, to construct seawalls and other protective structures.

While, we are very proud of our efforts to date, no one is denying that there is still a great need -- especially for large-scale capital works.

But while the shoreline is within our provincial jurisdiction, water levels are under the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada.

Ontario has been anxious to consult on this problem with the federal government. In fact, a letter was sent on December 12th of last year to federal Environment Minister Tom McMillan. We requested his support as our partner in any large-scale capital works program.

Well, four months have gone by. As yet, we have not received as much as an acknowledgement that our letter was received, let alone any word that our request is being considered.

We find this disheartening. We all know that the job of protecting shorelines is likely to be costly. But we also know that water quantity is an issue that will receive more and more public attention over the next few years and into the 1990s.

That public attention and concern must be channeled.

The people of the Great Lakes communities must continue to be involved in the planning process, for it is their communities that will be affected by any government policies put in place.

That is why my government is giving the Shoreline Management Advisory Council a major role in seeking public participation.

This will serve us well. Mr. McGuigan and his committee listened to the people and brought their concerns together in the committee's report. This council will build on the foundation of that work. It will ensure that the public's voice continues to reach my government and future governments -- loud and clear. And I give you my assurance that my government will be listening.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

OFFICIAL OPENING
OF THE WALKERTON FISHWAY

WALKERTON, ONTARIO

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1987

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



I am delighted to be here today for the official opening of the Walkerton Fishway.

This opening is also cause for some celebration within the Ministry of Natural Resources. The fishway is the largest habitat improvement project in the province to be funded under the Community Fisheries Involvement Program, or CFIP as it is known.

As many of you know, CFIP is a success story. During its five years of operation, the response has truly been overwhelming.

Scores of projects across Ontario have been funded through this program. Hundreds of people have willingly given up their leisure time to help rehabilitate local fishing streams, rivers and lakes and to build hatcheries and fishways.

It is obvious that CFIP hit a responsive chord and came at a time when anglers, outdoor groups and the general public wanted to get involved in the process of protecting and nurturing our fisheries.

This certainly has been the case in the Owen Sound District, where there have been more than 85 CFIP projects. These include completed, on-going and new programs.

This is an impressive number and an indication of the commitment by people in this district.

This sense of commitment is not just expressed in well-intentioned words. It takes hard work, persistence and patience to see a project from the idea stage to completion.

All of you here today know how true those words are because the building of this fishway has not been an easy task. When the idea was first proposed, back in 1983, there was a genuine desire on the part of outdoor clubs and other groups to help rehabilitate the Saugeen River.

One thing you and the Ministry of Natural Resources wanted to change was the barrier presented by the Truax Dam to the upstream migration of rainbow trout.

We all knew the rainbow trout population in the Saugeen watershed could be increased. But the fish had to get past the obstacle of the dam to reach some of the better spawning beds.

We all shared a dream to change that so rainbow trout could find a more suitable habitat for spawning and rearing.

While that desire never faded, your patience was often tested. First you had to go through on-again-off-again negotiations to buy the property. Then, when construction finally began, heavy rains and flood conditions delayed the project again.

And your work is not yet complete. As we can all see, wet ground has prevented you from installing the security fence and lights and from doing the landscaping.

But these finishing touches are icing on the cake. You have accomplished your main objective and today the fishway is operational.

Rainbow trout will now be able to navigate the dam and reach good spawning grounds between Walkerton and Maple Hill.

Not only have you provided the fish with a spawning area, but you have built a vertical slot fishway. Instead of jumping a fish ladder, the trout can make a less arduous journey in graded steps to their spawning grounds. This limits the stress on the fish.

These improvements are impressive and a major step in rehabilitating the Saugeen River to enhance an important fishery for generations of anglers. But none of this would have been accomplished without co-operation.

As I mentioned, this is the largest habitat improvement project funded under CFIP, both in the amount of money spent and the number of people involved. It took an enormous amount of collaboration and the work of nearly a dozen groups, including staff from my ministry, to bring this fishway into operation.

My ministry provided a grant of \$49,200 and a great deal more was contributed by private donations of money, material and labor. We all knew the importance of increasing a primary rainbow trout population in the Saugeen, and we all learned to pull together.

The job of getting us to work in tandem belonged to the Saugeen Rehabilitation and Fishery Council. Each group, including MNR, had a representative on this public body. Those representatives worked hard, as did the Town of Walkerton and Mayor Fraser Clark.

Business also got involved with one of Canada's major steel producers, Dofasco, and its Dofasco Angling Club, providing thousands of dollars worth of steel conduit for the fishway. Club members have also contributed their time and energy.

The South Bruce Game and Fish Protective Association, the Ontario Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen and the Lake Huron Fishing Club raised \$10,000 for the original purchase of the property. They have also provided a great deal of labor for the project.

Others involved in this co-operative achievement are the Saugeen Chapter of Trout Unlimited, the Golden Triangle Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen and the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority.

That is quite a list of team players and an indication of the interest in this project. It also serves as an ideal example of what MNR and outdoor groups can do, when we all put our talents together to make a dream become a reality.

While it is hard to single out people in such a large and dedicated group, I want to mention Jack Maschke (pronounced Mask ee), president of the South Bruce Game and Fish Protective Association. Jack Maschke was a driving force behind this fishway and without his persistence, this project might never have been completed.

Bob Bailey of the Dofasco Angling Club and Doug Smith, the chairman of the Saugeen Rehabilitation and Fishery Council, have never wavered in their commitment and their contribution has been large.

All of you have held a vision of a renewed and revitalized fishery on the Saugeen River. I thank you all for your dedication to that ideal and for turning a wish into a wonderful realization.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE
LAMBTON COUNTY RURAL GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

THEDFORD-BOSANQUET COMMUNITY HALL
THEDFORD, ONTARIO

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1987
8 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good evening. I am pleased to be here tonight to address this annual banquet.

My good friend David Smith has been telling me about the fine work your organization has been doing. In fact, when David first arrived at Queen's Park, we talked about the importance of wildlife to the province and the values placed on it by people such as yourselves.

Because you are all well-versed in my ministry's policies, this yearly event gives us an opportunity to look back at the progress we made last year. It also allows us to look ahead to the future -- a future where your ideas and concerns will play an important part in the management of our natural resources.

And management is the key word if we are to foster our abundant wealth of wildlife and water resources. You know all about that in Lambton County.

Your group was set up in 1949 -- 38 years ago -- by township reeves and clerks. They were concerned with the decline of wildlife in this county. Now, nearly four decades later, you are still playing an active role in helping my ministry shape its policies toward wildlife and the fishery.

Tonight, I would like to pay tribute to you and to make a few comments about some of the steps my ministry is taking to improve Ontario's sport fishery.

As you know, this year for the first time, nearly every resident angler in the province is required to buy a sport fishing licence.

Anglers pay \$10 for an annual licence, or they can purchase a \$5 licence for four days. The revenue generated by the licences will be used to fund fisheries programs.

From all reports, sales have been very good in this area. People are backing the licence because they want an improved sport fishery. My thanks to all the anglers of Lambton County for your terrific support.

Conservation officers from this region say they have found very few people fishing without a licence. However, I've been told that there is some confusion about whether a resident licence is really needed this year. Let me stress that the regulations requiring a licence are not just window-dressing. They are law.

Conservation officers have been told to use their discretion. They can issue warnings to first-time offenders, if it can be determined that those offenders truly were not aware that a licence is now necessary.

But if someone is obviously flouting the law -- for example, he or she is caught twice in the same month without a licence or is refusing to buy one -- then charges will be laid.

Conservation officers feel that very few people will fit into the above categories, because support for the program has been so strong.

We estimate that \$8-million to \$10-million will be generated every year from the sale of the licences. Although the money is just now coming in, we have already gone ahead and started several new projects.

We decided to do this because many projects can only be carried out in the summer months. Some of these programs would have been stalled until 1988, if we hadn't given them the go-ahead last winter.

This fiscal year, we will spend an extra \$1.4-million for stream rehabilitation across Ontario. We will expand the Community Fisheries Involvement Program, or CFIP.

Right here in the Ministry's Chatham District, we will use the additional revenue to carry out extensive surveys of what fish are being harvested by fishermen, and from which locations they are being taken.

There will be an extension to the creel census in the western basin of Lake Erie. As well, a new project will involve a systematic census in Lake St. Clair and on the St. Clair River. This is a three-year project, involving both the summer and winter fishery. It will give us concrete information on which to base plans for fish stocks in the future.

Another conservation officer will be hired to work out of the Chatham District office. The new officer will concentrate on sport fishing activities. There also will be additional money for the district's enforcement patrol to hire seasonal help and to buy equipment.

As you can see, this infusion of additional money from the sport fishing licence means an expansion of existing programs, and the creation of new ones. This is very exciting because it will provide immediate results, and it will allow us to plan for long-term benefits for the years to come.

That goal of long-term reward is also being pursued in the Chatham District through the fisheries management program. MNR staff are drafting a management plan for the fishery that will carry us into the year 2000.

There has already been public participation in this process. A background paper was released in January and generated a tremendous response at an open house in Sarnia.

Now a second draft will be made public in the next few months. I want to put the emphasis on the word draft. There will be lots of time and opportunity for your involvement, as the district fisheries management plan evolves. We want, and need, your input because the program will put policies into place for the next dozen years.

While I'm still on the topic of the fishery, I want to tell you about another development. Many of you will be familiar with the Blue Water Anglers fish hatchery in Sarnia. The hatchery will release its first chinook salmon at the end of this month and in early May.

That is a wonderful result after a great deal of hard work and money. It all started out as a modest, little project several years ago with some initial funding under the Community Fisheries Involvement Program.

It grew into a big operation because of the co-operation between my ministry and the Blue Water Anglers. We now all look forward to the first release as an example of an outstanding success story.

The Community Fisheries Involvement Program, or CFIP, has been a remarkable achievement. In just five years, scores of projects have combined MNR advice and money with community labor and ideas. CFIP is truly helping us all improve Ontario's fishery resource.

Some of you also will be familiar with another of our programs -- CWIP, or the Community Wildlife Involvement Program. CWIP is aimed at giving the public an opportunity to help design and set up projects to improve wildlife habitat.

There have been several successful projects in this area. They include the construction of a waterfowl viewing stand, the assembling of a mobile travelling display to teach the public about fur trapping and fur management, and the building of wood duck nesting boxes.

There is always room for good, sound projects under CWIP. The program offers funds for necessary equipment and materials, as well as MNR expertise and advice to help with these projects.

CWIP projects can involve sportsmen's clubs, naturalists' groups, cottagers' and community associations, landowners, trappers, farmers, agencies for the handicapped, students, 4-H clubs, girl guides and boy scouts.

Each MNR district office has a copy of the CWIP field manual, containing tips on ways to enhance habitat for many wildlife species. District CWIP representatives are ready to discuss ideas and guide you through the manual. I urge you to get involved.

CWIP also goes hand in hand with this year's celebration of Wildlife '87, a national conservation awareness initiative. It commemorates the 100th anniversary of the creation of Canada's first wildlife sanctuary at Last Mountain Lake, Saskatchewan. We, in Ontario, welcome the celebration of Wildlife '87 because we're among the leaders of wildlife management in Canada.

While I am on the topic of wildlife, I want to touch on a subject that directly affects the Lambton County Rural Game Protective Association. Your association is involved with hunting licences for townships, and my ministry is reviewing the municipal licensing system for pheasant.

For townships involved in programs to release pheasants into the wild, a fee of \$8 can be charged to non-resident hunters and a fee of \$4.50 to resident hunters.

Some townships have dropped their release programs. Township officials feel the licence fee is not high enough to cover all the costs of purchasing, rearing and distributing the pheasants.

My ministry is studying a proposal to increase the licence fee to \$12 for non-resident hunters and to \$8.50 for resident hunters. This proposed policy change is part of our ongoing review, as we look into ways to continue the strong involvement of municipalities as co-operators in game management.

As another part of strengthening those bonds between my ministry and your communities, I am pleased to note that the MNR office in Petrolia is moving next week to larger quarters at 360 Centre Street.

The Petrolia office is in the middle of Lambton County and many of you have helped make it a very busy place. This new, enlarged office will serve you even better. MNR staff will have improved facilities for carrying out hunter safety programs, and for dealing with your inquiries.

As you can see, the past year has been full of activities and plans.

We have introduced the resident fishing licence to expand our rehabilitation and enhancement of the sport fishery. With the involvement of the people in Chatham District, we are drawing up a fisheries management plan.

We will soon see the results of all that hard work at the Blue Water Anglers fish hatchery as the first chinook salmon are released. We continue to work together on CFIP and CWIP projects. We are reviewing the hunting licence fee for pheasant. We are moving the MNR Petrolia office to improve service to the people of Lambton County.

This is an extensive list. I know we will continue to make it grow even longer in the coming year, as we all work together with interest and energy to shape common goals.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ONTARIO LUMBER MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONVENTION

ROYAL YORK HOTEL
TORONTO, ONTARIO

APRIL 23, 1987
12:30 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good afternoon, and thank you. Last year was the first chance I had to address an OLMA convention as the Minister of Natural Resources, and I was still getting to know you and your industry.

But I can tell you that over the past 12 months I have had quite an education. For a while there, hardly a day went by without the words "softwood lumber" coming up.

Standing here today, I feel kind of like a desk-jockey general about to address the front-line troops. You have been caught in the cross-fire of a very awkward struggle. But despite that, many of you have been doing rather well over the past few months. So it is hard to predict what the future will bring.

We have been lucky that the exceptionally strong demand for new houses in the United States has created a strong demand for softwood lumber. But when that demand slows down, as it inevitably will, you softwood producers out there on the front lines could be hit. And unfortunately, there really aren't many ways you can shoot back.

The protectionist forces in the U.S. softwood lumber industry were handed a major victory on a silver platter, in the form of that 15 per cent softwood export tax. Our side wasn't even given a chance to fight the battle. And I know we could have won that battle.

My ministry, and the Ontario government, backed your industry all the way on this. We still do. When you consider everything -- the higher road costs, transportation, seasonal difficulties, resource proximity to mills and all the other factors -- you realize that they simply didn't have a case. But we were denied a chance to show that, and now you are paying the price in the form of this export tax.

Unfortunately, I don't think the protectionist tide south of the border is going to stop with softwood lumber. Now the Americans are trying to get an anti-dumping duty of 43 per cent imposed on Saskatchewan potash exports. Canadian steel exports are also being scrutinized.

To give you a feel for the kind of thinking we are dealing with here, I'd like to quote from a speech that Clayton Yeutter, the United States Trade Representative, gave to the Foreign Trade Association of California in January.

In it, Mr. Yeutter announces -- and I quote, "some five million American jobs depend upon exports and the days when the U.S. could build a wall around itself and ignore foreign trade are over."

He blames the huge U.S. trade deficit on what he says are unfair trading practices by other countries. And he cites Canadian softwood lumber as an example.

Again I quote. "Last month we successfully negotiated an agreement with Canada that will neutralize what we deem to be unfair subsidies on softwood lumber entering the American market. This will save thousands of jobs in the U.S. timber industry and enable many sawmills here on the west coast to remain open." End of quote.

We in Ontario know that our softwood lumber is not unfairly subsidized. We just seem to be able to make it better and more cheaply than the Americans do. Our people seem to be paying a penalty for keeping up with the economic and efficient production of softwood -- often with American equipment and technology -- while the Americans allowed their own industry to slide. But we were denied a chance to prove that.

While we do not support the Federal excise tax, it is there and, like it or not, we have to live with it -- for the moment at least.

Many of you are wondering whether Ontario is planning to increase stumpage fees as a replacement measure or alternative to the export tax. The answer at this point is no, we are not.

My ministry officials are now taking part in the national working group that has been set up under the wing of the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers to try to determine possible replacement measures.

Ontario's position is that we will willingly provide any information about our forest programs that the group needs. However, we have made it clear that we will not necessarily be bound by any decision the group reaches, or be obliged to follow any course of action that it prescribes.

I am sure it will be months before any of this is resolved.

As an aside, I announced last November 12, before the export tax was imposed, that Ontario planned to review its stumpage fees this year. We are still planning to do that. I'd like to emphasize as strongly as I can, that this is our established, on-going practice for this and has nothing at all to do with the export tax situation.

We consider this stumpage review to be an entirely separate matter from the export tax issue. But in the course of this review, we obviously have to take into account the existence of that tax. And, as the Premier noted earlier this year, our first concern -- and our first priority for use of the money from the tax -- is to minimize disruptions and unemployment in the sawmilling communities of northern Ontario.

As I said earlier, we have been lucky that economic conditions in the U.S. have been so good. In fact, the softwood industry has actually had some of the strongest months in its history this year despite the export tax. We can thank the low U.S. interest rates and the accompanying boom in residential housing construction there for that. A similar boom here in Ontario hasn't hurt us either.

We are pretty sure that the U.S. demand will remain steady through the spring and summer -- although there has been some softening lately -- as long as the interest rates remain more or less where they are. But the long-range picture may not be as rosy.

First of all, the value of the Canadian dollar has been increasing against its U.S. counterpart. Since hitting a low of about 69 cents U.S. last February, our dollar has risen to about 76 cents U.S. This is great news for the folks who spend their winters in Florida. It is not so great for softwood lumber producers.

A recent issue of the trade newsletter Random Lengths described it this way. A year ago, a sale of Canadian softwood to the U.S., worth \$200 (U.S.) F.O.B. the mill, would have returned about \$286 Canadian to the Canadian producer. But with the rise of the Canadian dollar, the return on that \$200 (U.S.) sale has slipped more than six per cent, to about \$267 Canadian. When you subtract the 15 per cent export tax on top of that, it reduces the return to the Canadian producer even more, to around \$227 Canadian. That's a \$60 drop in return -- a \$60 drop in the cash you receive to pay workers and cover operating costs.

The stronger Canadian dollar has several effects. It makes the U.S. market less attractive to Canadian producers. It raises the price at which Canadian producers begin to lose money on U.S. sales when the market there is soft. And it takes away some of the edge our Canadian mills have over U.S. competitors in overseas sales.

So, I'm afraid our ability to compete internationally may be threatened on two fronts -- by our stronger dollar as well as by the export tax. And rather than sitting back and letting the chips fall where they may -- if you will pardon the expression -- I think there are a few things we should be doing.

On a political level, we have to look at how we can convince people in the United States to move away from their protectionist stance and treat us as fair traders, which I know we are. Our Premier has been working very hard on this already, and I think that industries such as yours have to continue to give him -- and, hopefully, me, the backing we need.

Just as an aside, we also need your support when it comes to taking a hard look at what a free trade agreement with the U.S. really means. As the Premier said recently, we have to know what we're getting into here. Will free trade affect our ability to use incentives and subsidies to help strengthen this country's economically disadvantaged regions?

In other words, how would the Americans view oil drilling incentives for western Canada? Or, how about recent aid to Canadian farmers to cushion the impact of falling grain prices? Would free trade mean we couldn't work out arrangements to boost the sale of western coal in Ontario?

The point here is that the federal government has so far failed to give satisfactory answers to these questions being asked by the provinces. That can't continue. We have to know what we're getting into, because free trade -- as the Premier has stated -- "is the most important agreement our nation has ever considered because it will potentially affect every aspect of our lives."

I think we should be talking about these issues -- the same way we are talking about the significance of healthy forests and healthy forest industries for the average Canadian.

Here in this country, we are in the midst of a public awareness campaign to remind Canadians of how important forestry is to our country.

Actually there are two campaigns going on. The first one is jointly sponsored by the federal and provincial governments and focuses on the economic importance of forestry. I'm sure you have already seen some of the television commercials that are part of this effort.

Ontario has its own campaign, sponsored by my ministry, which focuses on the fact that forests are far more than just a place where wood is harvested. If any of you made it to the Sportsmen's Show here last month, you would have seen that this year MNR's very popular exhibit was about the life of a forest. That exhibit was just one part of this campaign.

We have also prepared pamphlets, buttons, slideshows and displays, as well as teaching kits for use in schools. These materials describe how forests are planned, how trees are grown, cared for and harvested, and about the number of manufacturing and other jobs that depend on forestry. We also talk about how important forests are for recreation and for environmental reasons.

I think it is vital to the future of the whole forest industry, especially right now, that the public understands what forestry is all about and how important it is to our country and to our citizens. And I think that if I were a softwood lumber producer I would do my best to make sure people understood what softwood lumber is, and why the general public should care about what is happening to the industry.

The public needs to know more about your business than the fact that you hire a lot of people. It needs to know that softwood lumber producers are fair traders and good corporate citizens. It needs to know that you make responsible and efficient use of the wood that is harvested from publicly-owned forests.

Just how you are going to get that message across is something that you as an industry are going to have to think about. But as the Minister of Natural Resources, I can tell the public with pride that my ministry recently signed a co-operative Forest Management Agreement with the sawmills in Hearst. I see this as a sign that sawmillers are taking their responsibility for the efficient use of publicly-owned forest resources very seriously.

We also expect to complete negotiations soon with two additional sawmills in Chapleau. These co-operative FMAs increase the number and size of the sawmilling companies involved in these management agreements. That in itself is terrific.

They also provide opportunities for modernizing and rationalizing logging operations in those communities, which could be great news for those towns and even better news for your industry.

Producers like yourselves are going to have to become even more efficient if you are going to continue to compete in a world market that is becoming increasingly insular and protective.

You will need the long-term stability of supply that an FMA guarantees. This stability will make it possible to streamline production systems -- which is essential if you want to avoid being priced out of the world market.

One of the other things that I think will prove beneficial to softwood producers over the long haul will be the results of a study currently under way to find the best end use of logs.

The committee looking into this issue is headed by Dr. James Kayll, Director of Forestry at Lakehead University, and includes a number of people from your industry. They have been asked to find ways in which we can make sure we get the best use of all our raw forest products.

The committee is still in the midst of doing its research so there isn't really much I can say about it right now. But I will meet with some of the senior people from your industry about this subject later this spring and I am sure there will be lots to talk about then.

I think that these developments -- the growing number of FMAs with sawmills and the movement toward a more efficient use of wood -- are very positive steps for the softwood lumber industry.

Because the only way to reduce our vulnerability to things like U.S. protectionism and outside economic forces is to make sure our lumber industry is in fighting shape -- lean and mean, as the saying goes. Since we have been forced to compete with one hand tied behind our back, we better make sure we are in a condition to do so.

That won't be an easy task for a desk-jockey general who doesn't always get enough exercise. I don't pretend it will be any easier for a softwood lumber producer. But it is something we have to do, and we will all be healthier for it in the long run.

Thank you.



REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ON

THE EASTERN ONTARIO FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

AT THE CORNWALL CIVIC CENTRE

JUNE 18, 1987
1 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good afternoon. I am here today to deliver some good news for eastern Ontario. Bonjour. Je suis heureux d'être parmi vous aujourd'hui et de vous apporter de bonnes nouvelles.

There is a lot of hard work involved in politics and running a large ministry, such as Natural Resources. The rewards come on days like today.

Today, I am announcing an agreement in principle between the Ministry of Natural Resources and Domtar Inc. This 20-year agreement is for an intensive forest management program on independently owned private lands in the area of the company's Cornwall fine-paper mill.

I do not have to remind this audience of how important Domtar is to the economy of Cornwall and the surrounding area. And this agreement attests to the importance placed on this region of the province by both Domtar and the Ontario government.

Over the first five years of this agreement, \$4-million will go toward improvement of woodlots and planting unforested land for future production in the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry and the United Counties of Prescott and Russell.

The Domtar mill is the largest fine paper mill in Canada. It now gets only 12 per cent of its wood fibre supply within a 75-kilometre radius of the plant.

Sixty per cent of the mill's supply comes from outside Ontario.

By planting new forests with fast-growing hardwood trees, thinning immature forests to improve growth rates and improving tending and harvesting techniques, we expect to increase wood availability over 20 years to the point where local landowners can supply between 22 and 35 per cent of the demand for wood fibre at the Domtar mill.

The province will spend \$2.7-million in the first five-year phase of the agreement, and Domtar will spend \$1.3-million.

The program will be reviewed at the end of each five-year period to ensure that it is meeting its objectives.

Domtar will be responsible for implementing the forestry program.

The ministry will provide funds for all direct costs associated with regeneration, tending and extension services.

The ministry will also provide funding for a landowners' association. In addition, it will provide technological advice, expertise, and will inspect and audit the work done by Domtar.

Domtar's funding will cover indirect costs for treatment and management, such as administration and the training of contractors, and the cost of planting stock and land lease payments to landowners.

We expect a good response from landowners because it offers them future opportunities. They will retain ownership of their land and the wood on it. The individual agreements between Domtar Inc. and the landowners will give the company a first-refusal option on wood sales. The rest is up to the landowners.

If the program develops as we anticipate, with annual wood fibre production increasing by 14,000 oven-dry tonnes in the first five years and by 36,000 tonnes by year 20, the financial return to landowners will be substantial. We expect the total will reach \$200,000 annually in land lease payments and stumpage sales.

Over the first five-year period, we expect that 100 man-years of employment will be created, mainly in tree planting, tending and harvesting. By enhancing the security of supply for the Cornwall mill, the program will also be contributing to the economic security of the 1,400 workers at the mill and about 400 independent forest workers in Ontario.

We estimate that for every dollar the province puts into this program, at least \$2.28 will be generated in the local economy.

The agreement will be carried out under an existing program that has proven very successful -- the Eastern Ontario Forestry Development Program, initiated in 1981.

This program will serve as a model for other areas of the province, particularly in southern Ontario, where there is similar potential to use intensive forest management on privately owned land to stimulate economic activity.

It's a program that promotes good forest management and makes good economic sense.

I am pleased we have with us today the general manager of Domtar Forest Products for Ontario, Mr. Richard Hilliker from Montreal, who also has a few words. Mr. Hilliker.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

CANADIAN SYMPOSIUM ON REMOTE SENSING

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO
WATERLOO, ONTARIO

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1987
1 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good afternoon, and may I welcome you all to the eleventh Canadian Symposium on Remote Sensing. I would especially like to welcome those of you from other provinces -- and indeed, from other countries -- to Ontario.

I understand the science of remote sensing got off to a flying start in 1848. In that year, an enterprising Frenchman named Tournachon boarded a newfangled aircraft called a balloon. He took with him, another unheard-of gadget. This one was called a camera.

His expedition was not without incident. When Tournachon descended near Bievres, the townspeople took their pitchforks to his balloon, thinking it was a device of the devil.

I'm sure many of you can identify with Tournachon's predicament as he tried to explain his experiment to an audience that couldn't comprehend the full import of his idea.

From the very beginning, the history of remote sensing has been characterized by its readiness to adopt new, and often untried, technology. It started in a balloon carrying cumbersome photographic plates. It continues today with the multi-spectral scanning system employed by LANDSAT.

That makes you pioneers -- and this is in an age when people have become almost complacent about the dazzling advances of technology.

This is an age in which we transplant human hearts almost as easily as we transplant petunias.

This is an age in which our children view the prospect of space travel with the same nonchalance we reserve for air travel.

You would think, then, that the applications of remote sensing would find a wide and enthusiastic following.

But instead, this industry is presented with a problem. It is a problem all pioneers have confronted at some point. For you, that point is now.

It has been only 15 years since the first LANDSAT was launched. Yet already three generations have passed, in terms of sensor technology. And new technologies have always been suspect. Whether it's the horseless carriage or thermal infra-red imaging, people are reluctant to trust things they don't understand.

Fortunately, they don't quite go to the extreme of Tournachon's irate villagers.

Now, I am certainly no authority in your field of expertise. But I can well imagine that in a specialty that is constantly breaking new ground, you have to gain the confidence of two important audiences.

One, your market. Many of your clients, including some of my own officials, undoubtedly feel more secure acquiring information by more traditional means. They have to be educated about the unique benefits of data generated by remote sensing. At the same time, we will all have to put the brakes on unrealistic expectations.

Two, you have to convince policy makers in government -- people like me -- to support your efforts. This is a critical time for a relatively new industry.

In both instances, my guess is that, as in industry, you still face many of the same hurdles, in communicating your capabilities, that Monsieur Tournachon did back in 1848.

We all have to sell potential clients on the merits of your technology and you have to show them that it will not necessarily threaten their jobs or detract from their own source of professionalism.

I'd like to tell you why my ministry supports you, and tell you what we are doing to help.

For some years I have been aware of the satellite images used on the evening news to forecast weather. I certainly, however, never thought of remote sensing as something that affected me in my daily life.

That attitude changed dramatically when I became Minister of Natural Resources, just two years ago.

In those two years, I've seen the benefits of information generated by remote sensing, over and over again. And I'm sold.

Let me explain how the ministry helped me to acquire this perspective. For the benefit of our visitors from overseas, I should describe how my ministry functions.

The Ministry of Natural Resources is charged with the management of Ontario's natural assets. It is responsible for managing such resources as forests, water, Crown land, wildlife.

It is also a hands-on ministry. That is, we deliver many of our programs directly to the people of the province.

That is augmented by the fact that the activities of the Ontario Centre for Remote Sensing, OCRS for short, fall within the jurisdiction of this ministry.

The OCRS has the mandate for developing new applications for remote sensing.

What better place to prove the techniques, than by applying them directly to this ministry's resource management programs?

In the past two years, I have been astounded by the imaginative use of remote sensing in a diverse number of MNR projects.

I've seen remote sensing applied to map land cover. To map watersheds for planning purposes. To measure and classify wetlands. To estimate the volume of Ontario's peat resource deposits.

Delegates to this symposium who are from Quebec and Newfoundland may have seen this technique demonstrated in OCRS pilot projects in your own provinces.

Forest management is another case in point. It's a big part of this ministry. Information that once took years to acquire, analyse and update can now be processed in a fraction of the time.

I'm sure it's no surprise to you to hear that we've tested remote sensing techniques for our forest resource inventory. To our analyses of burnt-over and clear-cut areas. To our estimations of the damage caused by insect infestations and forest diseases.

As a matter of fact, the director of the Ontario Centre for Remote Sensing, Victor Zsilinszky, is a forester of many years' experience. Before LANDSAT was even spaceborne, he recognized the potential that satellite imagery would have for Ontario's forests.

That, I feel, is the kind of thinking your industry needs -- remote sensing specialists who can speak the client's language -- and clients who can speak theirs.

You could say remote sensing has to become "user-friendly".

Only then will it be appreciated, understood and accepted by the public.

I mentioned earlier that part of the mandate of the OCRS is to develop new applications for remote sensing. And I've described how the Centre has applied its techniques directly to my ministry's programs.

Applications have also been devised to aid other government programs. They, too, are astonishing in their scope: Agricultural crop inventory. Water quality. Engineering surveys. Environmental change. Thermal surveys to pinpoint heat loss. Geological mapping.

There is no doubt in my mind, or in the minds of my colleagues in government, that remote sensing has a place in the future of Ontario.

Why do we think that, and what are we doing to encourage it?

We believe that the remote sensing industry embodies the type of industry that will lead Ontario into the next century.

We have seen the signs of change in our economic base. Ontario is moving away from an industrial economy, to one based on the production and sharing of information.

In the global marketplace, Ontario will have to compete with other countries that have lower labor costs, faster production, and cheaper products.

That means we have to devise unconventional products -- and improved methods to make conventional ones. So our new product is, in fact, our expertise. New technologies. New applications for those technologies. And the market for that knowledge will be both at home, and overseas.

This government has placed a high priority on encouraging these industries of the future. And we're taking steps to ensure their success.

For example, a year ago we created the Premier's Council on Technology. We committed \$1-billion to a technology fund, to match the investments of successful applicants on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

And we are also encouraging ambitious research and development programs. Certain R-and-D programs may be eligible for up to five million dollars a year over five years. They may be in the private sector, among Crown corporations, or in the academic environment. We consider these to be "centres of excellence" in Ontario's research and development efforts.

On Friday, the Premier of Ontario, David Peterson, announced the designation of seven such centres of excellence. Every centre of excellence involves at least one university and one Ontario corporation. Most of them will operate as a network, and in fact will involve several post-secondary institutions.

The University of Waterloo is involved in five of the seven centres of excellence. I know the one of particular interest to you is the Centre in Space and Terrestrial Science.

Waterloo will be working with the Universities of Toronto and Western Ontario and the Canadian Atmospheric Environmental Service. Fifteen companies are also involved in this venture. The Centre will carry out fundamental and applied research in several principal areas. Among them are earth observations, atmospheric physics, solar terrestrial physics and space geodynamics.

Given the vigorous emphasis placed on technology, it follows, then, that Ontario's remote sensing industry is ideally suited for growth and encouragement.

The Ontario Centre for Remote Sensing, as the leading government body involved in remote sensing, has made it a point to encourage communications within the industry - at government, industrial, and educational levels.

This communication is critical, if the industry is to work effectively, consistently and cohesively.

In 1984/85, OCRS established an industrial advisory committee, which aids the Centre in making decisions on research and development.

On a government-to-government basis, the OCRS has recently been accepted as one of three Canadian representatives of the European Association of Remote Sensing Laboratories. Of course, OCRS is a member of the Canadian Advisory Committee on Remote Sensing.

And also, OCRS works with an advisory committee representing our provincial universities and colleges.

Our goal in all this is to maintain an open and effective dialogue with, and within, the industry.

But that is just one part of the OCRS function. As a further indication of this government's commitment to the industry, the OCRS recently received full funding. That means it can now cover its operational expenses without the need to attract outside revenue. We felt this amounted to competing with industry for contracts - and that is not what OCRS is all about.

OCRS is now free to pursue its mandate -- to develop new applications of technology, and transfer that technology to the private sector -- without the pressure of competition for contracts.

What about training and the transfer of technology? Both are of paramount importance in a fast-breaking science such as this one.

Over the past four years, OCRS has conducted 26 one-week training courses in applied remote sensing.

During the same period, the Centre has held approximately 1,500 consultations, with representatives of government, industry and education.

Our collaboration with post-secondary institutions includes working closely with remote sensing educators. The emphasis on the post-secondary setting for centres of excellence, illustrates this. A number of colleges and universities in Ontario have had the foresight to integrate remote sensing into education, in the natural and applied sciences. The University of Waterloo is a prominent member of this group.

Remote sensing expertise -- including computer image analysis -- is becoming an important ticket into the job market for young professionals.

And I might add, well-trained graduates are great ambassadors of the new technology.

Educators in Ontario have recognized and reacted to the potential that your industry holds.

Now, what about current applications of the technology? How are we using it?

There are so many practical examples, I couldn't highlight them all. Let me just mention a few taking place abroad. After all, remote sensing is a global science.

The OCRS has assisted the Ontario industry in training scientists from the Thailand Remote Sensing Centre. In China, our chief scientist gave seminars in digital image analysis. In Germany, we have assisted an Ontario company studying the environmental impact of pollution on the Black Forest.

But one of this Centre's most important, and most far-reaching, projects will probably take many years to complete.

I am referring to a project that already dates back a decade, when this ministry was directed to develop a comprehensive land-related information system.

In that time, MNR's Ontario Basic Mapping program has evolved from graphical to computerized mapping. Through it we have established a standard for digital mapping across the province.

This standard promises that all computerized maps produced in the future will be compatible. And it will permit land information from many different sources to be combined into one, computer data base. This data base will be created and put into operation by our Geographic Information Services Section.

Remote sensing will make an important contribution to the provincial land information system. The Ontario Basic Mapping program will lay down the topography in computerized form.

The Ontario Centre for Remote Sensing, will fill in the blanks, providing information on the actual face of the land. Information on vegetation. The terrain surface. The way the land is being used.

This is a long-term investment - in time, money and effort. We feel a task of this magnitude is most appropriately handled by government. But we'll need all the resources of the private sector -- particularly in mapping, software development and remote sensing -- to carry it out.

Ultimately -- and this may not be for 10 or 15 years -- we will be able to produce, for any part of Ontario, an Ontario Basic Map which can be overlaid with information. Though that information may be on different themes, it will be produced in a standard format for common use. We are already producing such maps now, though for a limited range of the province.

You might compare this task to devising a common written language that can be understood by people of many dialects.

As I understand it, it means we'll be bridging the gap that now exists in your industry. The fact is, information is being generated faster than we have ways of transcribing it into usable form.

It means we'll be able to see at a glance the relationship between the geology of an area and its terrain. It means being able to plot how pipelines should cross rivers to take into account the effects of soil erosion. It means planning cities to avoid fault lines where earthquakes could occur.

And as the Minister of Natural Resources, I can easily see ways to apply the information to resource management. It will help in resolving conflicts over resource use. For example, we'll be able to relate hunting to the increase or decrease of wildlife habitat. We can plan forest fire-fighting efforts better. We can monitor water quantities more accurately.

In short, your industry is about to put itself on the map. Soon, you will finally be able to illustrate clearly to your public just how they benefit from remotely-sensed information.

And that will go a long way to bridging the communications gap between you and your public.

As I said earlier, you need to answer people's major question: "What does remote sensing mean to me?"

It could come to mean many things to many people.

To a farmer in Africa, it could mean a predictable supply of water.

To a miner in Silesia, it could mean the assurance of working in safety.

To a fisherman from Japan, it could mean a reliable, pollution-free fishing ground.

For all of us, it means having at once a distant -- and yet intimate -- perspective of this fragile planet.

You have the power to give us that perspective.

Until LANDSAT and SPOT -- the tools of your trade -- were launched, only a handful of astronauts had seen this planet in all its frailty.

Now you have an enormous responsibility -- and an enormous opportunity.

You have a responsibility to harness the technology in your grasp. You can show us meaningful uses for the knowledge which that technology can extract.

You also have an opportunity. You can influence what happens to this finite world of ours.

You can make us see our environment with astonishing clarity and breathtaking precision. The images you give us are more comprehensive -- more succinct -- more eloquent, than words could ever be.

Is there a future for remote sensing?

I can't imagine our future without it.

Thank you.



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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT
OF THE ONTARIO FISHERIES ADVISORY COUNCIL

TIMMINS AND NORTH BAY
ONTARIO

JUNE 30, 1987
2 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good afternoon.

I called this news conference today to announce the appointment of the Ontario Fisheries Advisory Council.

As most of you are aware, my ministry introduced a resident sport fishing licence last January 1. It requires all Ontario residents between the ages of 18 and 65 who want to fish for sport in Ontario waters to purchase a licence.

In return, I promised that funds equal to all the revenue generated from those licences would be used to improve fisheries management in Ontario.

My ministry held more than 30 open houses and public meetings before introducing this licence. The public response to the plan was extremely supportive. The only concern most people had was that they wanted to make sure all the money generated by the licences would, in fact, be used to improve fisheries management.

Fisheries management can mean many things to different people. But for Ontario anglers, it means improving fishing and fishing opportunities. My ministry will be doing this in a number of ways: by improving fish habitat; by expanding our fish hatcheries; by increasing access to lakes and streams, and by protecting and improving the production of our natural fisheries resources.



At the time we introduced this new licence, I pledged to establish an independent Fisheries Advisory Council. This council would advise me on how the revenue was being used, and to make recommendations about fisheries management programs directly to me.

Today, I am going to fulfil that promise. I have here the names of 11 people from across Ontario who will make up the Ontario Fisheries Advisory Council. Three represent specific interest groups, while the others have a strong interest in fishing, and in fisheries management, in Ontario.

The council will be chaired by Dr. E.J. Crossman. Dr. Crossman is a highly-regarded expert on fresh water fish and a curator in the Department of Ichthyology and Herpetology at the Royal Ontario Museum. Co-chairing the council will be Kristine Carter, co-owner of The Tackle Box fishing shop in London and an avid angler.

As I said earlier, the council also includes representatives of several special interest groups. These members are:

Rick Morgan of Peterborough, executive vice-president of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

Mr. Morgan has won numerous honours for his work in fish and wildlife conservation. In March, the Canadian Wildlife Federation named him Canadian Outdoorsman of the Year. He has also served on the National Advisory Council on Firearms, and was an active participant in the National Inquiry on Freshwater Fisheries.

Representing the Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters Association is Don MacLachlan of Wawa. Mr. MacLachlan has been in the tourist business for nearly 30 years, and is the owner of two tourist lodges and a small air service.

Jim MacDonald of Batchawana Bay represents the interests of commercial fishermen on this council. Mr. MacDonald is president of Ferroclad Fishery, a major fish processing plant and export facility on eastern Lake Superior. He is also the president of the Eastern Lake Superior Fisherman's Association, and the past president of the Ontario Council of Commercial Fisheries.

Other council members are:

- Marcel Harvey of Gore Bay, of the Elliot Lake and District Fish and Game Association.
- Lorne Allard, owner of a sporting goods store in Thunder Bay and an active member of the Steelheaders Association.

- Fred Geberdt of Owen Sound, past president of the Sydenham Sportsmen's Club.
- Tom Henderson of Englehart, chairman of the fish and wildlife committee of Bayley Watershed Lakes Association. Mr. Henderson is also active in our Community Fisheries Involvement Program.
- Pat Diciocco of Niagara Falls, a member of several fish and game groups in the Niagara area.
- Alma Adams of MacDiarmid, a Metis and member of the Ontario Native Women's Association. She has a strong interest in both recreational and commercial fishing.

One of the first things I will ask these council members to do is to review the more than 300 fisheries projects we have approved -- and in some cases completed -- under the sport fishing licence program.

The council will assure itself, and the public, that the additional funds we are spending to improve fisheries management in Ontario equals the revenue generated by the sport fishing licence.

Council members will also advise me on fisheries program policies and priorities, and will review and make recommendations on fisheries work plans to ensure that this licence revenue is spent in the best interests of the recreational fishery.

The diversity of the background and interests of the council members ensures that they will have first-hand knowledge of the conflicts which can occur among the various groups using our fisheries. Thus, the council will be able to take the needs of these various groups into account when making its recommendations to me.

I believe the members of this advisory council represent a wide and representative cross-section of the fishing public in Ontario. And I look forward to working with them for the long-term improvement of Ontario's fisheries.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

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REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE VINCENT G. KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ON THE SUBJECT OF
CROWN LAND COTTAGE LOTS AND NON-RESIDENT CAMPING

SAULT STE. MARIE
ONTARIO

JULY 2, 1987

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Hello. It is a pleasure to be here with you today.

As I expect most of you are aware, the Government of Ontario is very concerned about the fact that northern Ontario has not equally shared in the economic prosperity enjoyed by other parts of the province.

Although economic conditions are improving in some parts of the north, unemployment in the region as a whole is still several percentage points higher than the national average, and definitely higher than the Government of Ontario would like it to be.

It is, therefore, no surprise that Northern Ontario's unemployment situation has been one of my government's greatest concerns.

For this reason, we have undertaken a number of initiatives to improve the economic well-being of northern Ontarians -- not just for a few months or years, but for the long term.

Our approach has included four main components: first, initiatives aimed at strengthening the resource-based industries that are the backbone of the North; second, new investment in government programs, third, accelerated expenditures by nearly all ministries for capital projects and government services, and fourth, a decentralization process that sees government coming to the North instead of the other way around.



We are also making a concerted effort to work with local communities in the north to help them achieve their goal of diversifying their economic base. As part of this effort, my government has established nine Northern Development Councils, made up of a cross-section of northerners. These councils are problem-solvers. They provide the government with advice, and act as sounding boards for new initiatives. The council members provide a valuable insight into the northern business economy. Together we are enjoying what will hopefully be a long and beneficial working relationship.

I am here wearing my hat as Minister of Natural Resources. Putting on my cap as the Minister of Energy for a moment, I would like to say that we have also established a Northern Ontario Hydro Advisory Committee to advise Ontario Hydro's Board of Directors on northern initiatives, and to ensure that Ontario Hydro's considerable economic influence is used to the advantage of Northern Ontario industries.

I referred earlier to the Northern Development Councils. One new initiative which these boards have endorsed -- one about which we are very enthusiastic -- is the concept of using Crown land as a development tool to promote economic development in the north.

This follows from the Northern Strategy that the Premier spelled out last summer here in Sault Ste. Marie, that was reiterated at the Northern Competitiveness Conference in November.

When you consider that about 87 per cent of all land in Ontario belongs to the Crown, you can begin to see how important this resource is. My ministry has initiated a comprehensive review of our policies concerning Crown land. We want to determine how it can be used more efficiently to bring optimum benefits to the north.

Because this initiative is so important, we have already started to develop several methods of using Crown land as a development tool. And I am very pleased to say that I have several announcements concerning Crown land to make today.

The first is that the government has decided to offer up to 350 cottage lots in northern Ontario for sale or lease this year, at prevailing market rates.

These lots are all located north of the French and Mattawa Rivers.

District offices throughout the north can provide details about what cottage lots are being offered in their areas.

These lots will be offered on an equitable basis -- by public draws.

We will begin to offer cottage lots as soon as possible, hopefully by the early fall.

Crown land cottage lots will be offered to Ontario residents only.

In addition to this, my ministry will soon hire a consultant to prepare a detailed market and economic study to review the economic impact of cottaging in the north. Reflecting the Ontario government's overall commitment, the study will be steered by a committee of seven ministries including Tourism and Recreation and Northern Development and Mines. This study will help us pinpoint areas for additional cottage development in the future, and give us ideas on how best to go about carrying out that development within a quality environment.

As part of this study, we will be reviewing residency requirements to determine how and whether cottage lots should be made available in the future to non-residents of Ontario.

We expect that this study will confirm our belief that Crown land cottaging can have a significant and positive impact on the economy of the north.

Studies in southern Ontario have shown that each cottage built brings thousands of dollars worth of direct benefits to the local economy, through expenditures for labor and building materials. There are also long-term benefits. Cottage owners need to buy groceries, gasoline and other products, and they will usually buy these from local businesses.

My ministry is playing two roles here. On one hand, we will be acting as developers, making cottage lots available to the public, at fair market value. On the other hand, we are also the custodians of the land and water base -- and are responsible for the fish, wildlife and other resources that are found there.

In reconciling these two roles, we will be seeking the optimum -- and not necessarily the maximum -- benefit from our new Crown land initiatives. This means examining how much development a lake can realistically sustain over a number of years, and taking the concerns of other ministries, such as Environment and Tourism and Recreation, into account when we make our development decisions.

For these reasons, it can take at least three years from the time that we identify an area as a place where Crown land cottage lots should be offered, to the time we can actually offer them to the public.

During this period, we must do land surveys, prepare site plans, and do market studies and appraisals. Often, we have to build roads to make the area accessible. In the process, we are required to conform to all the requirements of the Planning Act and meet environmental standards -- just like any real estate developer.

I am very excited about our Crown land cottage plan. I know the demand for these cottages is strong, and I am confident that this initiative will go a long way toward helping to stimulate economic development in the north.

But we aren't stopping at cottages. Also as part of our thrust to use Crown land as a development tool, we are going to try to further assist existing tourist and other resource-based businesses operating on Crown land, that want to expand.

As I mentioned earlier, we are conducting a fundamental review of land management policies and procedures within MNR concerning Crown land. As part of this review, we will look for ways to streamline the administrative process.

We are going to provide longer-term tenure on Crown land for tourist operators who have made a major investment, or who wish to expand their operation. This should make it easier for these operators to secure financing for these projects.

My ministry is moving in other ways as well to encourage private-sector entrepreneurs.

Six primary development areas have been selected in which comprehensive, and imaginative, development will be actively encouraged.

These areas are in the vicinity of Ear Falls, Ignace, Atikokan, Wawa, Detour Lake, and Whitney. Some pilot projects are already under way in these localities, after consultation with the development councils.

MNR hopes to eventually expand these initiatives across the province if these programs are successful.

With reference to peat extraction, many of you may not be aware that 15 per cent of the peat found in Canada is located in Ontario. And yet, we have captured less than one per cent of the Canadian market. Peat is very important in horticulture, and also has potential as a fuel.

Our government has recently completed an inventory of all the provincial peat resources and we are making it available to private entrepreneurs. We are also making as much information as possible available to the private sector concerning access, transportation routes and markets for this peat.

In the process, we are actively encouraging the private sector to get involved in developing Ontario's peat resources. I am happy to say we are seeing a great deal of interest in this area, and that peat development is under way, or soon to begin, in several locations in the north, including Cochrane, Fort Frances, and in the Upsala area.

I mentioned earlier the Northern Ontario Hydro Advisory Committee. I want to say today that we are also working with Ontario Hydro and other entrepreneurs who want to develop small hydroelectric projects in the north. We currently have about 65 applications from across the province which are already in some form of development or are receiving final approvals.

In the future, we will be looking seriously into the establishment and promotion of aquaculture, or fish farming, in Ontario, and will be seeking ways of involving the private sector in this significant venture.

The new Crown land initiatives I have announced here today hold real potential as catalysts for economic growth in the north.

I am looking forward to receiving recommendations and advice from the Northern Development Councils about our Crown land initiatives. I know I can count on their support for our initiatives to encourage entrepreneurial development in northern regions.

Turning to another initiative that involves Crown land, since 1984, my ministry has been charging non-residents of Canada to camp on Crown land in its Northwestern Region and Atikokan District.

This pilot project -- which will continue this summer -- has been a tremendous success. We have turned 24 popular camping sites over to private operators to provide new business opportunities. This alone has led to an investment of about \$250,000.

In addition, the revenues generated from these campsites during 1986 provided income and employment for the owners and their families, and created additional seasonal jobs.

Furthermore, the sale of non-resident camping permits yielded \$190,000 in Crown revenue during 1986. This helps cover the costs of providing services on Crown land such as garbage collection and roadway and parking lot maintenance.

Today, I'm pleased to announce that my ministry intends to introduce a program in January 1988 that will require most non-residents of Canada to purchase a permit to camp on Crown land in all of northern Ontario.

A permit will cost \$3.50 a day for each person 17 years of age and older, or \$6 a day for a family. Non-residents of Canada, outfitted for camping by an Ontario outfitter will not be required to buy a Crown land camping permit.

Like our cottage development program, this will also cover all Crown lands, north of the French and Mattawa Rivers. In addition, some Crown land sites will be closed to camping by non-residents of Canada, and others will be offered for lease or sale to the private sector as commercial tourist enterprises.

The program will stimulate and support Ontario's tourist industry and the economic climate of local communities in northern Ontario. It will also help my ministry carry out its mandate to conserve and manage fish and wildlife populations as well as prevent overcrowding and over-use of popular campsites.

It appears that both resident and non-resident campers recognize the need to better regulate the number of campers in certain Crown land areas. During 1984 and 1985, we surveyed over 13,000 non-resident campers in northwestern Ontario and found that nearly 90 per cent planned to return.

In a separate survey of 100 tourist operators, more than half felt there had been an increase in business because of the pilot project. About three-quarters of those surveyed felt that the regulated camping zones meant there was less pressure on fish populations in heavily-used fishing areas.

The introduction of a Crown land camping program throughout northern Ontario is very important to the efficient management of our Crown land resources. It will certainly help ensure that the people of northern Ontario receive maximum social and economic benefits from the use of publicly owned land.

Thank you.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

CA 2201 REMARKS BY

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- S77
THE HONOURABLE SEAN CONWAY
MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND
ACTING MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

ANNOUNCING THE REBUILDING
OF THE HUNTSVILLE LOCK

HUNTSVILLE, ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1987
5 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Good afternoon. It is a pleasure to be here.

I had originally planned on giving a lengthy talk today on the historical importance of Huntsville and area in the early settlement of this great province.

I thought an historical theme would be appropriate. I had put together a rather large amount of material on navigation on local waterways in the last century.

However, I am given to understand that some of you would rather go swimming, and that I am to keep my remarks as brief as possible.

So I will get right to the point. I am pleased to announce that through the joint efforts of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Treasurer of Ontario, the historic Huntsville lock will be rebuilt.

The lock, which was built between 1873 and 1875, facilitated the movement of people and supplies by boat in the days when travel by road was considered unreliable.

After 110 years of faithful service and a number of renovations, the lock finally broke down last year. The problem was deterioration of the gate mechanism as well as the concrete walls and superstructure, which must be completely rebuilt.

The natural resources ministry, which has been responsible for operating the locks since 1971, and the Ontario treasury, which guards the gates of provincial finance, have agreed on a joint venture to get the lock rebuilt.

The estimated cost is \$675,000. Natural Resources will carry out the actual reconstruction, which will start in September.

The lock will be back in operation next summer. The town of Huntsville has agreed to take over the ownership, operation and maintenance of the lock once it is rebuilt.

This reconstruction project will open up many additional miles of boating by restoring access to Mary Lake, downstream, and to Lake Vernon, Fairy Lake and Peninsula Lake, upstream.

It will also continue an historic tradition, since the lock has been designated an historical site by the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

The lock will continue to be manually operated, as it was in the previous 100 years.

The site, as you know, is a popular one with year-round residents, cottagers, and tourists alike. The lock is part of what attracts people here.

Rebuilding the lock will improve water transportation, will enhance a recreational and historical attraction which is important to this area, and will have a positive effect on the local economy.

I know my colleagues, Natural Resources Minister Vincent Kerrio and Treasurer Robert Nixon, would like to have been here with me to deliver the good news, but their schedules didn't permit it.

I personally hope to have a chance to come back next year to see the lock in operation again.

Maybe then I will be able to deliver my speech on 19th century settlers.

Until then, enjoy the summer.

Thank you.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

REMARKS BY

GEORGE TOUGH
DEPUTY MINISTER
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

NORTHERN ONTARIO TOURIST OUTFITTERS

RAMADA INN
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1987
9 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good morning. As you know, I recently pulled up stakes and moved from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

I have a new job. I've moved into a different office. And at Queen's Park, I work with a new set of people.

So I couldn't wait for the NOTO convention to come around. You are the first familiar faces I've seen in six weeks!

I've been dealing with resource issues now for more than 20 years. I've spent a good deal of time in northern Ontario -- including misspending a few enjoyable years of my youth here -- and I think I appreciate your point of view because I've experienced northern life and its unique problems first-hand.

The northern way of life only appeals to a very special kind of person. They thrive on its diverse climate and its special environment, its vast distances and its solitude. They develop into real individualists. They have a special drive. They make among the best entrepreneurs in Ontario. For all these reasons, I admire the people who call the north their home.

And I hope the good relationship you and I have built up over the past couple of years will continue, both on a personal and professional level.

What I want to talk about now, before I open the floor for questions, is where MNR stands in its relationship with NOTO -- and with other resource users. I'd like to clarify how those relationships have changed. And specifically, I'd like to talk about what this ministry has done, since last year's conference, to strengthen the ties between us.

Let me start with a bit of background.

A few years ago, the government realized it had to be more in touch with the people it governed. It realized that doing things because, quote, "that's the way we've always done them", unquote, just wasn't good enough anymore.

The people of this province expect the government to account for its actions.

They expect government to conduct public business in an open, public forum.

They expect government to be accessible, not distant from the people it serves.

And they expect to have a say in making decisions about public resources and public assets.

The bureaucracy had a lot of catching up to do.

For MNR, it meant our foresters and biologists and administrative managers couldn't call the shots anymore -- at least, not unilaterally. They couldn't do things in the old, familiar, traditional ways. All of a sudden they had to contend with phrases like "consensus" and "open government".

It wasn't an easy adjustment. We're talking about people who've been managing our natural resources very ably as trained, skilled and committed professionals.

Now they are expected to explain their decisions more completely, open their books and consult more vigorously with the public.

You know yourselves the ways in which MNR has opened its doors so resource users can have their say.

We have public meetings on management plans for timber, fish, wildlife, parks.

We have permanent and ad hoc advisory committees -- that include members of the public -- on such things as plans for a new waterway park, moose tag allocations and fisheries management projects. NOTO members sit on some of those committees, so I know you're familiar with the process.

And at the same time that the veil is being lifted from government decision-making, we're facing an explosion of demand from individuals, groups and businesses all clamoring for a piece of the resource pie.

NOTO is one of a number of resource users that MNR works with. You're not large in terms of numbers. But you are an important part of the tourism industry of northern Ontario. You have huge potential to generate money and employment in northern Ontario. The province is committed to encouraging the growth of the northern economy, and quite clearly tourism, including the outfitting business, is one means to that end.

What this all boils down to is one word: Reconciliation. Reconciling conflicting resource demands. Balancing the requirements of one group of users, against those of another. Managing the resource base in such a way that we conserve for the future, as well as develop for current needs.

That's what lies behind our relationship not only with NOTO, but with sporting groups. Business groups. Environmental groups. Individuals.

It's not easy trying to adjudicate, to build consensus. That's why we're now bringing conflicts out in the open, putting opposing parties together to talk out their differences, to get them to see things from the other guy's perspective, and find their own solutions.

It's why we're working hand-in-glove with interest groups like yours, to further open the lines of communication and build new bridges -- bridges not only between MNR and outfitters, but between you and other resource users.

Let me tell you now about one of these efforts, the Christie Committee which we formed after last year's NOTO convention.

First on your list of important issues was, not surprisingly, communications. That's really part of this whole process of reconciliation of resource uses. What's happened since last year?

Well, we've improved MNR's internal communications considerably so that our staff is constantly aware of your concerns.

For example, we fully circulate minutes of meetings between MNR and NOTO.

Those meetings, between tourist operators and district staff, take place now at least once a year.

We're encouraging our people to visit NOTO establishments and see your operations firsthand.

We're also sending them to sport shows in the U.S. -- where your traditional customer is -- to learn first-hand what your clients require, and what their perceptions of Ontario are.

Our people are also getting more training on the concerns of the tourism business. Next year, you'll see a real boost in training among those staff who are involved in outdoor recreation -- our people involved in parks, wildlife and fisheries.

We've also improved our inter-ministerial communications. Last year you also asked MNR and other ministries to take a more unified approach in working with NOTO.

I'm pleased to report that staff of MNR, and the Ministries of Environment and Tourism and Recreation are making an effort to travel together on mutual business so that they all get the same understanding of your operations.

Those of you who are based in our northwestern region are probably aware that in the Thunder Bay and Atikokan areas, we're working on a project that will develop a checklist for reviewing new or expanding projects.

The checklist spells out considerations which MNR, the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and MTR can look at, when evaluating projects which affect you.

And as you asked, we've worked out an arrangement with MTR and MNDM. MNR now has the opportunity to provide input in the review of development plans. This applies where a loan application indicates implications for natural resources.

What about our communications with NOTO?

You asked us to go back to the basics and provide some straightforward information about how our processes work.

As a result, we're almost ready to publish a handbook on our planning system.

We're also working on an information kit that will tell you all about MNR. It should be ready in late-1988. In the meantime, our district managers are giving a "primer" on MNR at their annual meetings with tourist operators.

In three of five MNR northern regions, we've prepared maps showing the boundaries of our various districts. As for the other two northern regions, their maps will be ready before the end of the year. Using these maps, tourist operators will be able to tell at a glance which district office is responsible for managing their area.

Our district staff are making a point, too, of explaining to you the nature of the decentralized workings of this ministry. They're taking you point-by-point through the system to show how issues move progressively along the chain of command until the question is resolved.

This is the perfect place to suggest that you might consider setting up a parallel system, matching your zone directors with our regional directors. It would really speed up the communications process and we could get things wrapped up much more quickly.

To help in our larger goal of improved communications with NOTO, we sought out your executive and asked for their special input in the discussions of the Christie Committee. So you can see what a high value this ministry places on the consultation process.

By the way, you were particularly keen for information on our timber management planning procedures. I'm pleased to say that we've published a brochure on timber management planning, and it's making its public debut here at the convention.

That brings me to the second major topic examined by the Christie Committee: access.

As you asked, we're now ensuring that timber management planning documents are kept front and centre, so operators know what's happening in their own areas.

We're also educating our staff more thoroughly about the many options that are open in resolving road conflicts. We've scheduled two-day seminars in four MNR areas in northern Ontario and they're all on schedule.

We're also talking to MNDM and MTR about this issue; we believe we share the view that there's room for improvement.

Next on your list of concerns was the issue of land disposition.

As a first step, we've given our field managers greater authority in using their own discretion when disposing of land for commercial tourism.

Now, I know I can't talk about land disposition without also broaching the topic of land tenure.

Last week we announced that a consortium of consultants will be thoroughly reviewing MNR's land disposition practices. The aim of the study is to look at amendments to our existing policies that will make Crown land more readily available to entrepreneurs such as yourselves.

Naturally, they'll look closely at the possibility of extending the terms and conditions of land tenure. The idea is to encourage entrepreneurs to make sizeable long-term business commitments.

We realize we can't use Crown land to build the northern economy without providing reasonable security of tenure to the people who actually make the investment.

At the same time, if the resource is to be made available, there ought to be an economic quid pro quo for the province.

We expect the consultants, headed by Anthony Usher, will report back to us by about June.

What I've talked about is a fairly abbreviated synopsis of the work of the Christie Committee. We've tried to address specific issues with specific, practical measures. I think that, in less than a year, the Christie Committee has done well in responding to your concerns.

It's been an interesting exercise of this ministry's ability to respond to one of its most important publics. As I said earlier, the government has directed the public service to be more accessible, more open with all the public, including NOTO. We're trying to break down barriers and build bridges between resource users.

We'd like to encourage NOTO to build its own bridges with those other resource users. What are you doing to show them your point of view? How will you co-operate with them in future?

I've just given you a run-down on how MNR is trying to accommodate your industry, trying to communicate with you. We've met the challenges you offered us a year ago.

Tomorrow, you will meet to discuss and vote on various resolutions.

I would love to see one of those resolutions take the shape of a commitment by each individual to become more involved with your local communities.

I would love to come back here next year and hear how you're building bridges, working with your neighbors, and getting them to see you as a vital part of the community that they can't get along without.

If you make that investment in your communities during the next 12 months, you'll be reaping dividends for years after.

I'll look forward to the 1988 NOTO convention and hearing your progress report next year.

Now, it's time I opened the floor to questions.



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

REMARKS BY

VINCENT KERRIO
ONTARIO MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE
NORTHERN ONTARIO TOURIST OUTFITTERS
ANNUAL CONVENTION

RAMADA INN

SAULT STE. MARIE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1987
8:15 P.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

First I'd like to point out that my colleague, Bud Wildman, who is critic for Natural Resources in the Legislature, is here tonight. Normally, Bud would get the chance to comment on my remarks, but not so tonight, Bud.

I'm here for two functions. Today, we took official delivery of a new CL-215 water bomber. It was actually delivered earlier in the year, but the fire situation was such that it had to be put to work right away. So today was the first chance we had for a formal ceremony.

That plane brings the total fleet of water bombers to 29, which together are worth \$6.5 million. It is critical to have these resources to fight fires. The number of fires was up this year, but the number of hectares burned was down. That's due to the quick response afforded by state-of-the art detection systems and the CL-215s. Ontario is also part of the all-Canadian project based in Winnipeg which involves provinces sharing their fire-fighting resources.

I have a little apology to Rod, but I thought the CL-215 delivery was well worth mentioning. Now I'll get on with my second function.

We've come to the mellow part of the evening. The chairs are pushed back. The coffee is poured. We all feel a little more easy. And I'm finally convinced no damage is going to come to my necktie!

I'd like to congratulate NOTO on reaching a milestone anniversary. You've come a long way in 60 years.

The past year, especially, has been an important year, certainly in the history of NOTO's relationship with MNR. I think we've made truly important strides in working on our common concerns about our natural resources. They belong to all Ontarians.

George Tough talked this morning about many of the projects we've been involved in together, so I'm going to touch on just a few of them.

You know, we had a first at Natural Resources -- Mary Mogford was the first woman to become deputy minister. She did an excellent job, and she'll be sorely missed. But when the time came to appoint a new deputy minister, I think George Tough was the best choice. In fact, if I were choosing, which I don't, because it's the Premier's decision, but if I did choose a deputy, it would have been George. He's from Northern Ontario, and I know he will serve the ministry well.

Anyway, back to the projects.

We've worked together on Guidelines for Timber Management to Protect Tourism Values.

MNR invited NOTO to help us work out a process for monitoring the effects of timber harvesting. Bob McKercher, Roger Little and Don Massey put in many hours and I think we've come up with an excellent program. We're planning to apply for funding for our proposal.

We've also had a very successful time in bringing about changes to the moose tag allocation process. These changes are directly benefiting NOTO and other tourist operators.

This was also the year we extended Crown Land camping restrictions across the whole of Northern Ontario.

These are some of the changes we've made to our programs -- the day-to-day side of our operations -- that have helped you do your jobs as it helps us do ours.

I'm also pleased at one of the most significant improvements between us -- in communications. We've got it working right at ground level, right up through the Ministry. Our district managers meet with operators in their local areas at least once a year so you people can touch base.

And it's at that very basic level that we've opened the door to two-way communication as some people have seen. Our district managers have discovered that all kinds of things they took for granted you knew -- like how our processes work -- were, in fact, not clear at all.

So these meetings have become a great opportunity for us to exchange information so we both have a thorough understanding of how the other operates.

These district-level meetings were something you asked for, and we responded. Over the next year I would like to see more of those meetings run in a co-operative manner.

I'd especially like to see operators co-chairing the meetings, so we're not running things. I think that will go a long way in establishing what the agenda for change has to be.

One of the things that has contributed to the progress we've been able to make, both in our program areas and in opening our lines of communication, is our improved relationship with other ministries.

Again, this is something NOTO recognized as a problem, brought to our attention, and helped us resolve.

We realized that we weren't drawing on the expertise of other ministries that are just as concerned with northern business as my ministry is.

So we improved our links to those ministries we're expected to work together with.

For example, the deputy ministers are now meeting regularly to discuss areas of common ground.

And by extension, we've been working jointly on specific projects, to all of our benefit.

MNR got involved, this past year, with the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation in the development of their tourism strategy. That has been a very close link.

And now MTR is going to respond in kind, to help us in the development of our own tourism framework. In fact, we asked MTR's regional director for the Northwestern Region to join our steering committee.

MTR was also instrumental in making changes to our moose tag allocation process.

In future, we'll be working with them hand-in-glove to identify tourism opportunities in conjunction with land disposition.

We've already dealt with five dispositions in the Atikokan area and two around Cochrane.

Our closer relationship with NOTO and with other ministries involved in northern tourism, is certainly something to celebrate. It augurs well for all of us. Our reasons may be different, but we all have a common goal: a healthy industry which becomes part of a healthy economy.

I guess you could say the "theme" of the past year has been "building partnerships". I'm glad to see it's not over -- that you're starting to build partnerships outside of government too. For example, you met today with representatives of the Prospectors and Developers Association.

And Bob, we saw you and Jack Craik in dialogue -- and it was lively -- which I know is the beginning of a very important reconciliation and consensus effort with us.

When I met earlier this evening with Rod and Bob, I was delighted to see how well they recognized the need to build consensus among the various resource users.

You know the trend toward more leisure time. That means more pressure on the uses of the resource. We need people to work co-operatively.

They asked me to help organize and support that effort, and I was quick to agree.

George Tough and Tom Adamchick talked earlier today about the value of forming these kinds of linkages. Tom in particular made the point that the tourism industry needs to get the support of a wider public. I can't tell you how important this is. In Niagara Falls, tourism attracts 15 million visitors every year. We have to have acceptance of what we do in the community.

Having the PDA represented here at NOTO is a big step in the right direction.

NOTO members are really moving ahead in recognizing the need for these linkages. In the few hours I've been here, I've heard about some prospects that sound very promising.

One of them involves operators who are meeting soon with their local Chamber of Commerce to talk about joint tourism development opportunities. Someone else mentioned the North Shore Development Association, which is taking an overall approach to local tourism opportunities.

What these initiatives point to, I'm sure, is taking a wider view of tourism opportunities in the north. Now, I gather some of you got the notion at this morning's panel discussion, that we're suggesting you get into some different business.

Even worse, we sensed that some of you were worried that we might be relaxing in our efforts to increase and upgrade the fish and wildlife resource, upon which your industry depends.

That is not the case at all.

We're suggesting, however, that you take a good look at the other things that might attract people to your area, and take advantage of them.

This kind of diversification isn't exactly new to tourist operators. In the Lake of the Woods area, outfitters are now selling family vacations -- and selling big. There's one initiative that is very successful.

There are operators around who don't want the publicity, but they're using some fairly progressive management techniques to reduce pressure on the resource -- and their business is doing extraordinarily well.

I won't name names, because they want to maintain a low profile. You can't blame them. Their success flies in the face of the conventional wisdoms about what people want from an outfitting holiday.

The point is, these are all signs that outfitters are moving with the times. Many of you are being very progressive, very positive, in how you conduct your business.

Many of you are recognizing the link between tourist operations, and resource management. That's a very important element we're all going to address.

I want to make one point very clear about resource management. That is, that the Ministry of Natural Resources intends and expects to fulfill its responsibility as custodians of the resource that belongs to all Ontarians -- present and future generations.

I don't think there can be any doubt of that. We are actively involved in fulfilling our mandate. Otherwise we wouldn't have been able to give you such a positive progress report about our program areas this morning.

Let me make clear some of the most important things we've been doing and expect to continue to do.

We expect to demonstrate leadership. Certainly, in the area of improving communications with resource users, we've worked hard to establish linkages with you, with other resource users, with other ministries, and all of the people over the past year.

We expect to provide expertise, if you need it. We've assisted in hundreds of wildlife and fisheries projects that were spearheaded, not by my ministry, but by voluntary groups. They are part of our community fisheries and wildlife involvement programs.

You know, I'm very enthusiastic about CFIP and CWIP. We get a huge return on our investment in these programs, and they're all geared to one very important objective -- renewing the resource.

Another part of our mandate is that we expect to provide at least some money. As you know, ours is not one of the big-budget ministries. But we're certainly trying to encourage co-operative ventures. That's why we were pleased to get involved in the Eagle Lake project involving almost 30 tourist operators.

Along with other ministries, we helped the tourist operators hire a biologist.

This project combines all the elements of successful resource management, as we expect it will shape up over the next 20 to 30 years.

It involves all the people who have a declared stake in the resource.

It encourages local initiative.

It draws together all the ministries that are involved in tourism in the north.

It's filling a need that can't be met by our budget alone.

Tom Adamchick said, earlier today, that a deputy minister at MTR stated the Eagle Lake situation sounds just like a forest products company hiring a forester.

I think that point is well taken. You know which other industries in the north are seizing the opportunity to get involved in the management of their resource base. The tourist operators who make the effort to get into co-operative management, are only doing the same thing. And MNR is willing to accept a co-operative effort.

We're willing to listen to you. We're willing to act on what we hear -- even if it's something simple, like re-designing the sport fishing licence so you can put your magnifying glasses away!

The fact is, we're willing to work with anyone who is committed to building and maintaining a healthy resource base.

This past year, MNR has learned a lot about NOTO. I hope you've learned a lot about us. We've proven one thing for sure: we have a lot of common ground when it comes to a genuine concern for our natural resources.

Over the next year, we'll be working together on such issues as the class environment assessment for timber management. The Temagami land uses question. District fisheries management plans -- and in some cases, lake-specific plans. The Fisheries Advisory Council. I heard some concerns about representation on the council. We never intended to leave anyone out. But I wanted to see the council begin its work.

But be assured, northern tourism will be represented at all these places.

We'll be doing a fair amount of talking, a fair amount of listening. I think we'll find a few surprises along the way. I think we'll find, by the time next year's convention comes around, that we've got even more in common than we realized.

I'd like to finish by giving you a personal message. There's no other interest that is as important to me as a politician as renewing our forests, wildlife, fisheries and recreation. I feel very strongly that we must renew our resources, and I intend to do everything in my power to do that.

Thank you.



REMARKS BY THE
HONOURABLE VINCENT KERRO
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TO THE

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
ONTARIO LUMBER MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

AT THE

HILTON INTERNATIONAL HOTEL
TORONTO
APRIL 13, 1988
NOON

Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to once again share with you my thoughts for the coming year.

In 1986, I jumped into the spotlight up here as a freshman minister who had a lot to learn but who had a generally optimistic message for you. Last year, three months after the export tax was imposed on softwood lumber sales to the U.S., I took this podium once again, a lot wiser and more seasoned, fairly disturbed about what had transpired -- but still optimistic.

This year I'm still upset about how the federal government handled the countervail and the whole free trade negotiations and agreement.

I'll never accept that those issues were handled properly, with your interests -- and ours -- at heart. But I have to tell you I'm still optimistic about your industry and its prospects.

I'm optimistic, because the past three years have been exceptionally good for the softwood lumber industry. While there has been some softening of the market in the last five months, it may not be of the magnitude forecasters predicted late last year.

I'm optimistic, too, because Ontario's commitment to the forest remains strong. The Ministry of Natural Resources invested 2.7 times last year's timber revenues -- a total of \$217 million -- in forest management last year.

We're continuing to develop improved forest management techniques; we're putting money into a number of industrial development initiatives. Our research and development program is good and the new information and techniques are being put to work in the field.

We're looking at intensive forest management that will enable cheaper wood to get into the mills.

I'm also optimistic when I look at the reviews of forest management agreements and the fact that six of those agreements, including the last three, are with sawmillers.

I am also pleased that the hearing into MNR's class environmental assessment on timber management begins next month in Thunder Bay.

That hearing won't be easy for you or for us. Our way of managing the forest -- harvesting, regeneration, taking account of the other resource values -- is going to be under a microscope. Not all are going to agree with our view of ourselves, and the process may be unsettling at times.

But the hearing will help accomplish a major goal we've shared: providing the people of Ontario with all the information they've ever wanted to know about forest management.

If we put our story well, we'll come out of the process with more appreciation of what we do, and more certainty in terms of the investment framework.

I'm optimistic about 1988 because of the markets. According to Hay-Roe's latest PaperTree Letter, last year was another great year for housing starts in the U.S. -- the fifth in a row. Coming on top of this activity is a renovation boom that since 1983 has doubled the use of lumber for repairs and renovations.

It's true there's been a drop-off in starts in the first few months of 1988, but we can realistically expect that those starts will climb again because there has been a drop in mortgage rates in the U.S. This has not shown up yet in housing starts, but that's because there is always a lag of about two months.

The bottom line is that, despite everything, Ontario lumber manufacturers should still expect to make a reasonable profit in 1988.

But I don't want to leave you with the impression I'm overjoyed about the lumber scene. I'm optimistic, but it's a cautious optimism. In many ways, 1988 should still be regarded as a year of uncertainty.

And that uncertainty is the reason I'm still as angry as I was when I spoke to you last year. Maybe more so, because I don't know how long we'll all have to continue paying for the actions of the federal government.

We are still trying to find ways to soften the blows industry has had to suffer. We can at least do what we can to avoid making your burden heavier.

I know what you've been through and I want you to know that the Ontario government sympathizes with you. We continue to argue that the export tax on softwood lumber is unnecessary. There is no valid reason for imposing it.

Ottawa's errors began in 1986 when the federal government did not listen to the advice of lumbermen and the Ontario government. We wanted them to take the offensive, and combat the protectionists in the U.S. who asked for countervailing duties on Canadian lumber.

The Ontario government and Ontario lumber people were denied the chance to prove that our softwood lumber was not being unfairly subsidized. In my view, that was a battle we could have won.

That was error number one.

Error number two followed very quickly. The federal government -- as I said last year -- handed the U.S. softwood lumber industry a major victory on a silver platter. They agreed to impose the 15-per-cent export tax on softwood lumber that you're paying now.

Then came the Free Trade negotiations. That's where we hoped Ottawa would right the wrong that had occurred. This was the big chance for them to defend their lumber industry.

Instead, we got error number three. The federal government -- in its panic to get into the history books -- sold out the softwood lumber industry once again by agreeing the export tax would be "grandfathered" -- as is -- in a free trade agreement.

That, in effect, totally legitimized an unfair and unbalanced countervail situation. It also set a precedent. It gave U.S. industry a tool that could be used any time in the future. If any U.S. industry feels a pinch in competition from Canada, especially in the natural resource sector, it can use the arguments -- and Canada's acceptance of them -- in the softwood lumber case, to justify imposing countervailing duties.

What Ontario hoped to get from a free trade agreement was unimpeded access to U.S. markets for our forest and other resource products to foster increased growth for those industries. We thought the federal government understood this, because that's exactly what the federal government said that it wanted from a free trade agreement.

It was the key objective: getting rid of the harassment that our resource exports were suffering from U.S. industrial and regional interests.

Before the federal government caved in on the export tax, before it negotiated its free trade agreement, we had unimpeded access to the U.S. market.

In the free trade negotiations, we didn't get unimpeded access -- error number four -- and we didn't get what was a consolation prize -- a binding dispute settlement mechanism -- error number five.

What we got is a panel that will make sure Canadians -- including Ontario lumber manufacturers -- follow U.S. law.

So what Ontario lumber manufacturers got is absolutely no relief from the added burden of a 15-per-cent tax on products being shipped to the U.S.

That's a stiff price to pay for having more efficient mills and a dollar with a lower value.

And error number six involves that dollar. Thanks to the exchange rate policy of the federal government, the value of the Canadian dollar is rising, making it even harder for lumber manufacturers to remain competitive.

A year ago, a thousand board feet of Ontario softwood selling for \$200 in U.S. funds would have returned about \$267 in Canadian funds to the producer.

But with the federal government's policy of letting the Canadian dollar rise, the return on that \$200 U.S. has gone down to \$250 Canadian. When you subtract the 15-per-cent export tax on top of that, it reduces the return to the Ontario producer even more, to around \$227.

That's a \$40 drop in return -- or a \$40 loss per thousand board feet that could go to paying workers and covering your operating costs and recovering your invested capital. You are to be congratulated for bearing up under this double-whammy.

The only small relief from this attack on your revenues comes from my ministry's double-indexing system for Crown dues.

The Crown dues on a cubic metre of softwood from Crown land dropped this month from \$3.80 to \$3.57, a six per cent decrease. In other words, under the Ontario indexing system, when you make less, you pay less; when you make more, you pay more.

Under our system -- and I think this is only fair -- when you suffer, we share your pain.

While we're on the subject of the dollar, I would like to take a minute to thank Yvon Martel and your board of directors for the hard work and tremendous support they've given my ministry and the government of Ontario in the fight against the export tax.

I would particularly like to point out that it was your board who drew everyone's attention to error number seven of the federal government.

It was your president who, in a letter, asked the big question: Why did the federal government enter into a free trade agreement that had no provision for adjustments when the value of the Canadian dollar changed in relation to the U.S. dollar?

That is something everyone is now asking. The federal government negotiators signed an agreement at a time when the Canadian dollar was worth about 70 cents U.S. There is no provision to offset the losses that occur when our dollar rises in value.

But I have to mention one last error. Ontario always argued that the export tax would result in a loss of sovereignty.

Aside from losing the freedom to maintain and implement regional economic development strategies, the various agreements would, we argued, open the door to the U.S. government and the industry that we are competing against to intrude directly into our affairs.

We are now finding out how deep that intrusion is. Under the softwood lumber agreement, signed by the federal government, a province must go to Washington to get approval before it makes any changes in its stumpage rates, if it wishes to have any credit against the export tax.

We are obliged to go with hat in hand to ask Washington if we can change our own regulations. But we have absolutely no say in the formulation of U.S. forest management policy.

I know there may be a fair number of U.S. citizens sitting in this audience. I know you must be shaking your heads over that one because, knowing what I do about American pride in maintaining your sovereignty, you must wonder how our federal government could give up so much -- without even a decent fight.

To an American, the reverse would be inconceivable.

But it may be even worse than any of us realize. Quebec has just negotiated the reduction of the export tax with Washington by agreeing to raise stumpage dues.

In effect, the U.S. has given Ottawa permission to collect only an eight-per-cent export tax from Quebec lumber exporters. But Quebec -- a province that we all know takes sovereignty very seriously -- has also been forced to pay another price in terms of its freedom and self-determination. No one is talking about this part of the arrangement, which is Annex Four of the deal.

Under the terms of the annex, the Quebec government now has to notify Washington immediately if it wants to do anything in forestry. As I understand it, under the terms of the agreement Quebec has just signed, it must hand over complete documentation regarding all major forestry matters -- quarterly, semi-annually, annually -- and promptly -- to Washington.

The reports include almost everything: regulation changes, changes in forestry manuals, industry costs for prevention and control of insects and diseases, full reports on harvest volumes, billing and total costs incurred by the Quebec softwood lumber industry.

And all this will have to be done in a timely fashion if Quebec wants to maintain tax reduction relief, an unprecedented acceptance of a limitation on sovereignty.

I think I can understand why U.S. interests want this depth of information. Obviously, no one in Washington is embarrassed about asking for it. What I can't understand is how our federal government could encourage this arrangement. By its actions, the federal government has extended almost an open invitation to the U.S. to interfere with our sovereignty.

As a Canadian citizen, I'm disturbed. As the Minister of Natural Resources for Ontario, I'm concerned about the precedents that have been set and the direction we're going.

A little earlier, I talked about how your association fought every step that was taken by the federal government and how you are still swinging.

Well, keep your bats handy. We're not through yet. The Ontario government is not about to accept the mess we've been handed. We're certainly not going to accept intrusions into the handling of our own affairs as we see fit.

The Government of Ontario has to have the freedom to make changes, establish policies and implement programs in order to help industries like yours survive and prosper.

We can't do that looking back over our shoulder all the time and running around getting approvals from jurisdictions that have their own interests at heart.

Aside from that, the federal government doesn't seem to realize that when it bargains away the sovereignty of its provinces, it bargains away Canadian sovereignty.

I find it amazing that I even have to say that. It's like having to give players on the home team directions to their own ball park.

Those are some of the reasons I have to say the future is uncertain. As far as Ontario is concerned, the export tax is unfair and the free trade agreement is unsatisfactory, to say the least.

As far as we're concerned -- and I know you join me in this -- the struggle isn't over. Ontario will continue to oppose what's happened in the softwood lumber industry.

In the meantime, my ministry, in co-operation with other Ontario ministries, is searching for innovative and creative ways to lessen the burden imposed on you.

Believe me, it isn't easy. The softwood lumber agreement leaves us very few options in terms of helping the industry deal with the competitive pressures -- fair and unfair -- that you face.

But, as you know, there is a multi-ministry effort underway now to develop strategies and measures to help the forest products sector become stronger and to assure its future well-being into the next century.

We are committed to helping maintain a healthy sawmill industry -- and we can, if we continue to work together.



**NEWS CONFERENCE REMARKS BY
THE HONOURABLE BUD WILDMAN
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS**

**TEMAGAMI, ONTARIO
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991
4:00 P.M.**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good afternoon. I'm pleased to be here today to announce the creation of the Comprehensive Planning Council for Temagami that will replace the Temagami Advisory Council.

I'm joined by Roman Brozowski of Nipissing University College in North Bay. Dr. Brozowski will be the chair of the new Comprehensive Planning Council. He has been the chair of the Temagami Advisory Council and his work with TAC has been valuable.

Dr. Brozowski will provide important continuity between the Planning Council and the Temagami Advisory Council.

I am pleased that Dr. Brozowski has agreed to take on these new challenges.

We are joined here today as well by a number of the 12 members of the Planning Council and I will mention their names in a moment.

The new Comprehensive Planning Council will ensure increased involvement of local citizens in resource management matters in the Temagami area.

It will include labor and mining interests as well as environmental, municipal, tourism, forestry, and recreational interests.

The new council will have a more significant role to play in resource management planning than its predecessor.

It will take a holistic approach to resource management planning and ensure that all planning for parks, tourism, timber harvesting, fisheries and wildlife is done at the same time.

The planning council will also work with other government ministries, particularly the ministries of mines, tourism and citizenship and culture, to ensure that planning really is comprehensive.

The preparation of the comprehensive plan for Temagami will be done with the active participation of other ministries.

It is the intention to have the Comprehensive Planning Council move into its own offices in Temagami in order to increase its independence.

The planning council will manage the public consultation process in the development of a comprehensive plan for the management of all natural resources in Temagami, excluding the area managed by the Wendaban Stewardship Authority.

The planning council will also provide advice to me regarding on-going land-use and resource management decisions in Temagami until the comprehensive plan has been approved.

Originally, it was expected that a comprehensive plan would be ready by the end of March 1992. We are extending that deadline by up to two years to give the planning council sufficient time to meet our commitments to full public consultation in this process.

I mentioned that we are joined by other members of the new council. They are Nicol Seguin, Kathy Hakola, John Frey, Gary O'Connor, Nickie Plumstead, Ron Magee, Suzanne Gooderham, Bob Beach, Larry Jackson, George Lefebvre, Larry Wiwchar and Ivor Horncastle.

I'm pleased you could be here today. I look forward to receiving the advice of your council on comprehensive planning for Temagami.

Negotiations with the Teme-Augama Anishnabai are ongoing in recognition of the commitment of the province to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed last year. In the MOU, there is an agreement to work toward a Treaty of Co-existence.

The planning work of the new Comprehensive Planning Council will be complementary to negotiations with the Teme-Augama Anishnabai. The mechanics of how this will be done are to be determined through bi-lateral discussions between Ontario and the Teme-Augama Anishnabai.

I believe the establishment of the planning council, in conjunction with other initiatives regarding the Teme-Augama Anishnabai that I will be announcing in a few moments, will lead to more harmonious and prosperous relations between the native and non-native communities in Temagami.

END



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles



**REMARKS BY THE HONOURABLE BUD WILDMAN
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AT A NEWS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCING
THE WETLANDS POLICY STATEMENT**

**DUFFINS CREEK
AJAX, ONTARIO
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1992
11:00 A.M.**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

I am announcing today the government's action plan for protecting provincially significant wetlands.

Wetlands, such as the one you see here, are vital natural phenomena which sustain water quality and quantity. They provide habitat for a wide variety of plant and animal species. You can see some evidence of this as you look around.

Some wetlands support tourism and recreational opportunities, and in doing so they also provide economic and social benefits that contribute to the high quality of life in Ontario.

There is a gradually increasing recognition that wetlands are important. The province and environmental groups have made significant efforts to communicate the value of wetlands to the Ontario public.

However, in spite of these efforts, wetlands in southern Ontario are disappearing as encroachment, land clearance, draining and filling continue.

This has resulted in a loss of more than 75 per cent of the original wetlands in southern Ontario. In the north, some types of wetlands are relatively scarce and may be jeopardized by competing land uses.

The government attaches tremendous importance to conserving Ontario's wetlands for future generations. We are therefore committed to taking strong action to protect this valuable resource before it is too late.

You may recall that in 1989, and again in 1991, draft policy statements on wetlands were released across the province for public review and comment.

We wanted to hear from the Ontario public before making any final decisions, because the measures we take to protect wetlands will have to be considered in all future land-use planning decisions.

We held extensive discussions with municipalities, interest groups, conservation authorities, and other provincial ministries.

We consulted with professional planning organizations and environmental groups concerned about wetland issues.

Some of the groups consulted included the Federation of Ontario Naturalists, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, the Canadian Environmental Law Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Urban Development Institute and the Aggregate Producers' Association of Ontario.

We also heard from concerned individuals across the province.

The government is pleased with the assistance and the direction the people of Ontario have given in the development of this policy statement. We have listened to these comments.

The province is today issuing a Wetlands Policy Statement to protect Provincially Significant Wetlands under Section 3 of the Planning Act.

Under this Act, the land-use planning process now provides for the identification and protection of Provincially Significant Wetlands. Protection by municipalities of all other wetlands is also encouraged under this policy statement.

The Planning Act will require every municipality, every local board, every minister of the Crown and every ministry board, commission or agency of the government, including the Ontario Municipal Board and Ontario Hydro, to have regard to the Wetlands Policy Statement.

This policy will be administered jointly by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

With this policy statement, our goal is to ensure that there will be no loss of Provincially Significant Wetland functions or area in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region and no loss of Provincially Significant Wetland functions in the Boreal Region of northern Ontario.

Under the Planning Act, there will now be greater protection of the environment and better land-use planning.

I am pleased to tell you that the Wetlands Policy Statement is but one part of a comprehensive government program to protect wetlands in all areas of the province.

It will complement other wetland protection initiatives such as those within the wetland management program MNR has been operating for more than three decades.

This program provides protection for wetlands through a variety of means, including incentives for private landowners who preserve wetlands, landowner agreements or, if necessary, acquisition.

Under the program, owners of provincially significant wetlands are eligible for property tax rebates of 100 per cent if they maintain wetlands in their natural state. A stewardship program recognizes owners of wetlands for their preservation efforts.

The province is a partner in a series of major agreements with Ducks Unlimited Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada and Environment Canada to conserve, and in some cases rehabilitate or create, wetland wildlife habitat.

The Provincial Parks system, the Provincial Wildlife Areas system, and Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest and Conservation Authorities all have program components which protect wetland values.

This partnership approach is an on-going process. We will continue to work on joint ventures to maintain and restore wetlands in northern and southern Ontario with those agencies that share our vision.

And in the coming months, MNR and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs will consult with other ministries and interested groups to develop Implementation Guidelines for the Wetlands Planning Policy Statement.

These guidelines will further explain the intent of the Wetlands Planning Policy. They will be formally released in October by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

The Wetlands Policy takes effect in three days -- on June 27, the day it appears in the Ontario Gazette.

Later today, my colleague Dave Cooke, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, will announce this policy in the Legislature and explain how it will affect municipalities and land-use planning in general.

Questions and Answers

Wetlands Planning Policy

1. What is this policy all about?

This is a provincial policy statement, prepared under Section 3 of the Planning Act, that establishes wetlands as a matter of provincial interest in municipal planning. This is one means by which the province will ensure that wetlands are identified and adequately protected through the land-use planning process, in its pursuit of no loss of provincially significant wetlands.

2. Why is it necessary?

We have lost more than 75 per cent of our wetlands south of the Canadian Shield in this century due to various kinds of development. Even north of the Shield, wetlands are now coming under development pressure.

Wetlands are important because they sustain water quality and quantity, help to control damage from flooding and erosion, produce valuable resource products, and sustain a wide range of recreational and tourism activities. Those activities are often based on the wide variety of plants and animals which rely on wetland habitat. Beyond this, wetlands are integral parts of broad ecosystems of which humans are a part.

Much of the damage to provincially significant wetlands can be alleviated by control of development through careful land use planning.

3. What is a provincially significant wetland?

A provincially significant wetland is a Class 1, 2 or 3 wetland, as defined in the wetlands evaluation system currently in use for that area of the province south of the Canadian Shield, or those wetlands identified by the Ministry of Natural Resources as provincially significant wetlands by means of an evaluation system developed specifically for other areas of the province.

The wetland evaluation system is a standardized system of measuring features and functions of wetlands in order to achieve a ranking system of relative value of one wetland against another. The evaluation system is based on the biological, social, hydrological and special features of the area. Evaluation criteria are available at MNR district offices.

Wetlands Policy -- *Questions and Answers*

4. How does the policy protect wetlands?

The policy requires that all municipalities and all planning authorities have regard for wetlands of provincial significance. The planning authorities must incorporate the policy in all planning matters, including the preparation of Official Plans and Zoning By-laws. In addition, the policy encourages planners to protect wetlands that are not provincially significant.

The policy directs that no development occur within provincially significant wetlands in the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Region. (See figure). Development may be permitted in the Boreal Region only if there is to be no loss of wetland function, no subsequent demand for future development which will negatively impact on existing wetland functions, and no conflict with site-specific wetland management practices (to be demonstrated in an environmental impact study -- EIS).

5. What is an environmental impact study (EIS)?

An environmental impact study is a study prepared in agreement with established procedures, to identify and assess the impacts of development on provincially significant wetlands.

6. What is "development" in the context of this policy?

"Development" means the construction, erection or placing of a building or structure; activities such as site grading, excavation, removal of top soil or peat; the placing or dumping of fill; and drainage works, except for the maintenance of existing municipal or agricultural drains.

7. Does the policy provide for a protected buffer around wetlands?

The policy provides that development not be permitted in **adjacent lands** unless an environmental impact study (EIS) demonstrates no loss of wetland functions, no subsequent demand for development which will have a negative impact on existing wetland functions, no conflict with existing wetland management practices, and (in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region), no loss of contiguous wetland area.

Establishment of a buffer within adjacent land may be a strategy chosen to prevent impacts of development, but the adjacent land is not necessarily a buffer zone.

Wetlands Policy -- *Questions and Answers*

Adjacent lands are defined in this policy as those lands within 120 metres of an individual wetland area, as well as all lands connecting individual wetland areas within a wetland complex. Development may be permitted on adjacent lands only if impacts on the wetland are avoided. The test of this will be the assessment of predicted impacts through an environmental impact study (EIS).

8. What is a wetland evaluation and how is it done?

Wetland evaluation is a standardized system of measuring features and functions of wetlands in order to achieve a ranking of relative value of one wetland against another. The result of an evaluation is a determination of the characteristics of the wetland (its contents, features, boundary, etc.) and classification of the wetland (provincially significant or not provincially significant).

9. Is the evaluation system reliable?

The system for evaluation of wetlands south of the Canadian Shield has been shown to be reliable through repeated testing and comparison of results and through a process of evaluating approximately 2600 wetlands. The system will be revised from time to time to incorporate new science, which is developing rapidly in this field. The system for that area of the province north of the south edge of the Shield will be ready for implementation in 1992.

10. How do I find out about wetland evaluations that might affect me?

People who evaluate wetlands (usually staff of the Ministry of Natural Resources) contact owners of wetlands during the evaluation process and keep them informed of the evaluation and its results. However, owners of wetlands are not always easily identifiable. Property boundaries, for example, are not apparent in some wetlands, fences may not exist, and ownership of water-edge property is not always clear. Also, many landowners do not live in Ontario and may be difficult to contact.

Therefore, if a landowner has a wetland on his/her property that may have been evaluated e.g. a wetland that is over 2.2 hectares (or 10 acres) in size, that person may inquire at the nearest District Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources to determine evaluation results.

Wetlands Policy – *Questions and Answers*

11. Does anyone else perform wetlands evaluations?

To provide a one-window approach and consistent evaluation results for the purposes of planning, all evaluations must be approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources. In this regard, the ministry provides standard training to, and qualifies, wetland evaluators.

However, in various parts of Ontario, agreements have been established between local MNR offices and Conservation Authorities to have the latter perform evaluations. On some parts of the Rideau-Trent system, Environment Canada, our original partner in developing a wetland evaluation system, has evaluated wetlands in keeping with its responsibility for management of the canal system. Some consulting companies have also evaluated wetlands.

12. If I disagree with an evaluation, what action can I take?

People who disagree with the results of an evaluation, such as classification or location of a wetland boundary, are encouraged to talk to staff in the District or Area Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources in which the evaluation was performed. The sooner this can be done the better. The details of individual wetland evaluations and mapping are available only at the District or Area Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

13. How was the new provincial policy statement on wetlands developed and who has been consulted?

This policy statement began as a discussion paper issued for public comment in 1981 by the Ministry of Natural Resources, which laid out the benefits of wetlands and the losses that had occurred in southern Ontario to that point. Groups which responded to the paper were uniform in their direction to get on with the job of conserving wetlands. The subsequent direction of the government was to develop a policy under section 3 of the Planning Act, and to begin the process by issuing a planning guideline entitled, "Guidelines for Wetlands Management in Ontario," which was issued in 1984.

Wetlands Policy – Questions and Answers

The guidelines were intended for interim use in the planning process and for public comment. An interministerial working group consisting of staff from the Ministries of Natural Resources, Municipal Affairs, Agriculture and Food, and Environment, was formed to analyze the response and prepare subsequent drafts of the policy for Government approval. Drafts of the policy were issued in 1989 and again in 1991, for comment by municipalities, planning jurisdictions, other ministries, other governments, and the public. Interest groups and professional associations have provided key assistance in this process.

14. Is this policy the work of the Ministry of Natural Resources alone? Has there been any coordination with other ministries?

Development of the various drafts and the final policy has been the work of an interministerial working group consisting of staff from the Ministries of Natural Resources, Municipal Affairs, Agriculture and Food, and Environment. All ministries of the Provincial Government were consulted in the approval stages for each draft. Environment Canada has also been consulted in the policy development process and was a partner in development of the southern evaluation system.

15. Is this policy the only wetland protection measure that we have?

No. The policy is a part of a comprehensive program of wetland conservation. This program has a planning component, of which this policy is a significant and essential part. Plan input and review and land-use and resource management planning are other components that occur within the Ministry of Natural Resources. In addition, wetlands that are being threatened may be secured by a variety of means including landowner agreements, landowner stewardship or, if necessary, acquisition.

Owners of provincially significant wetlands may apply for tax rebates under the Ontario's Conservation Land Act and Land Tax Reduction Program. Details on how to apply for rebates may be obtained from local offices of the Ministries of Natural Resources or Municipal Affairs.

Wetlands Policy – Questions and Answers

Ontario is also a partner in a series of major agreements with Ducks Unlimited Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada, and Environment Canada to conserve, and in some cases rehabilitate or create wetland wildlife habitat. The Provincial Parks system, the Provincial Wildlife Areas system, and Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) have components which protect wetland values. Wetlands are also protected by Conservation Authorities in their various programs and by municipalities in their land management programs. Ontario administers the Fisheries Act (Canada), a component of which protects wetland fisheries habitat. The province is also a major partner with the Government of Canada in international efforts aimed at wetland conservation on the Great Lakes, and protection of wetlands of international significance under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (The Ramsar Convention).

16. **How is this policy different from "Guidelines for Wetlands Management" which are currently in place?**

The wetlands policy represents the Government's direction on wetland protection under Section 3 of the Planning Act.

The 1984 Guidelines for Wetlands Management in Ontario called for "compatible use" of provincially significant wetlands, and laid out general criteria to be followed in considering any planning matter involving changes in plans or zoning for those areas. The guidelines did not deal with adjacent lands.

This policy defines "development" and prescribes that development not be permitted in provincially significant wetlands in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region. On adjacent lands in that Region, development may be permitted only if specific criteria are met and demonstrated in an environmental impact study (EIS).

These criteria are as follows:

- that there be no loss of wetland functions;
- that there be no subsequent demand for future development which will negatively impact on existing wetland functions;
- that there be no conflict with existing site-specific wetland management practices;
- that there be no loss of contiguous wetland area (Great Lakes St. Lawrence Region only)

Wetlands Policy -- *Questions and Answers*

In the Boreal Region (see map), the policy directs that development be permitted within a provincially significant wetland only if it meets the first three criteria listed above, as demonstrated by an environmental impact study.

The policy makes a distinction between Boreal and Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Regions in permitting development.

The Guidelines provided that Class 1 and 2 wetlands were wetlands of provincial significance, and that Class 3 wetlands were regionally significant. The policy now provides that Class 1, 2, and 3 wetlands, as defined by "an Evaluation System for wetlands of Ontario south of the Precambrian Shield", are provincially significant, and also those wetlands identified as provincially significant through other evaluation systems developed for other areas of the province.

17. Why not have a policy that states that development not be permitted on adjacent lands?

This would be unreasonable. Some development can occur on some adjacent lands without negatively affecting the wetland. Some development may be necessary in order for people to fully benefit from the features of a wetland. The implementation guidelines will detail how this can occur and what will be examined in environmental impact study. Some lands connecting wetland areas within a wetland complex are very extensive, forming large portions of some counties. Again, excluding development completely from these areas would not be scientifically justifiable or socially and economically acceptable.

18. Why are provincially significant wetlands in the Boreal Region treated differently than provincially significant wetlands in the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Region, and why was this boundary chosen?

At this time, the extent and distribution of provincially significant wetlands in the Boreal region of northern Ontario is unknown. In order to maintain the option of social and economic development in the Boreal Region, a region in which wetlands are particularly well distributed, but which has a relative lack of economic opportunities, it was decided that development in a provincially significant wetland might occur, given rigorous scrutiny of each proposal in an environmental impact study process.

Wetlands Policy -- *Questions and Answers*

The southern boundary of the Boreal Region was chosen for several reasons:

- the boundary separates land forms, and therefore has an ecological basis;
- the boundary is a reasonable separation of relative intensity of development pressures of various kinds;
- the boundary conforms to provincial administrative units.

19. How will the wetlands policy have an impact on economic renewal?

Application of the policy may have an impact on some proposed development. In the long run, however, all the benefits of wetlands should be enjoyed along with economic development, if the functions of provincially significant wetlands are protected.

20. How will the policy be applied on the Canadian Shield where evaluation may not have taken place?

Where provincially significant wetlands are not identified and/or evaluated by the Ministry of Natural Resources, the policy cannot be implemented.

The Ministry of Natural Resources will make every attempt to establish priorities for evaluation on the basis of existing and potential demand for development or where land-use planning documents are proposed for review and update. Where a wetland evaluation has not been completed and mapping is not available, and a development application has been submitted for review and approval under the Planning Act, the Ministry of Natural Resources will evaluate wetlands on a case by case basis. This information will then be provided to the landowner, the approval authority, and the applicant along with various other comments under the ministry's mandate regarding the planning application.

All questions concerning evaluation may be directed to the respective District or Area Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

21. How can I find more information about specific wetlands in my area?

The most up-to-date information is contained in your local District or Area Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources. Telephone numbers and addresses are listed at the back of the policy statement.

22. How does this policy affect approvals that have already been given?

The policy must be considered if further planning is necessary, or further changes are necessary in the municipal planning process, or other approvals are required. Please contact your municipality, your local MNR office, or MMA offices listed at the back of the policy statement, for information on the particular wetland in question.

23. How does the policy affect drainage?

Drainage for the purposes of farming or municipal drainage is controlled under separate legislation. This policy does not supersede or take priority over other policies or legislation. However, drainage as a part of other development will be affected.

24. How does the policy affect farming on adjacent lands?

In most cases, established farming or agriculture is recognized as an existing use. The policy is relevant only when there is a change of zoning contemplated, or a change in the Official Plan. We will continue to encourage farmers to protect wetlands, consistent with good soil and water management practices, but in most cases, established agricultural activities and the structures usually associated with them are specifically permitted in adjacent lands by the policy, without an environmental impact study.

25. Are wetlands other than provincially significant wetlands important and how might they be protected?

A good many of them are important. They do not rate high enough to be provincially significant, but they may be very valuable locally. The policy encourages municipalities and other planning jurisdictions to protect these wetlands as well, and wherever the province has information on these lands, it will place it at the disposal of the municipalities and provide planning advice.

Wetlands Policy – *Questions and Answers*

26. Why was protective legislation not used instead of a planning policy?

A good deal of legislation already exists in Ontario which may be used, to protect wetlands, or protect wetlands with modification. Simply invoking specific legislation to protect wetlands is not feasible without addressing all other related legislation.

MNR, on a regular basis, reviews legislation and will be encompassing the intent of the Wetlands Policy Statement in any subsequent updates.

We are also studying wetland protection in the United States, which has chosen the more direct legislative approach. They, in turn, are very interested in our approach and consider our tax rebate program and planning policies to be very significant contributions to our joint (Canada-U.S.) wetlands management initiatives.

27. Don't wetlands change naturally over time?

Yes they do. Current evaluations will not remain the same forever. However, they should be valid, barring major environmental disruptions, over 5-10 year planning cycles.

28. Why is there any concern about wetlands in the Boreal Region, where there appears to be a lot of wetlands?

In some places in northern Ontario, dry land is the scarce landform. However, wetlands are being developed and not always the most common or most appropriately placed wetlands are being lost. Not all wetland types (e.g. marshes, bogs, fens, swamps) are equally abundant in northern Ontario, and wetlands that do perform major beneficial functions for human settlements might be developed and lost in expansion of those communities. Wetland evaluation in the north will take careful account of relative scarcity, ecological function, hydrology, and presence or absence of special features in order to assess provincial significance.

Wetlands Policy – *Questions and Answers*

29. How does this policy compare with Canada's policy on wetland conservation?

The Federal Government has been in the process of developing a wetland conservation strategy for at least six years.

The Federal strategy advocates the promotion of wetland conservation through the maintenance of wetland functions and values, through no net loss of wetland functions on all federal wetlands, enhancement and rehabilitation in areas of high loss, sound planning, and securement. The mandate of the Federal Government to implement such a policy lies in being a major landowner in Canada and the social, economic, and environmental programs through which it may implement such strategies.

The federal strategy comes at an opportune time since provincial policies do not apply to federal lands or activities.

Because it has not attempted to evaluate wetlands of national significance, the Federal Government has chosen a "no net loss of wetland function" approach, in contrast to Ontario's "no loss of wetlands of provincial significance".

30. If development is constrained, will affected landowners be compensated?

There are no plans to compensate anyone for appropriate use of land. The planning authority has a responsibility in law to plan for the environmental as well as economic and social well-being of its community. This does not constitute an unwarranted "taking" of the land by the planning authority. Instead it leaves an appropriate legacy of land for future generations.

31. Does this policy apply to government operations as well as the private sector?

Yes. The Provincial Government and its agencies are required to have regard for the policy, and to consider all alternatives in locating new facilities or utilities. While this may not always be possible, it has been the common practice to comply with this policy since the inception of the 1984 Guidelines.

Wetlands Policy – *Questions and Answers*

32. Will there be associated implementation guidelines?

The purpose of Implementation Guidelines is to assist in further explaining the intent of the provincial policy statement. The Guidelines will also present various options and approaches for incorporating wetland protection and management into the land use planning process.

The Guidelines are not rigid procedures. A certain approach may be acceptable in one area under certain circumstances but not be acceptable in a different area or under a different set of circumstances.

33. Who is responsible for the Implementation Guidelines?

The Ministry of Natural Resources in consultation with the Ministries of Municipal Affairs, Agriculture and Food and Environment, will develop the Implementation Guidelines. In addition, various Ministries such as Energy, Housing, Northern Development and Mines, and Transportation will be consulted along with various interested groups across the province.

The Guidelines are formally released by the Ministries of Natural Resources and Municipal Affairs.

34. When will the Implementation Guidelines be ready?

Implementation guidelines are scheduled to be distributed in October.

Until Implementation Guidelines are available, the following general direction on implementing the Wetlands Policy Statement is given for the guidance of municipalities and others:

- each municipality that receives notice of the Wetlands Policy Statement must notify each local board (Section 3(4) of the Planning Act);
- all planning authorities must carefully consider the policies set out in the Wetlands Policy Statement when dealing with any development proposals or applications under the Planning Act; and,
- where provincially significant wetlands or wetland complexes have been identified (that is, evaluated and mapped) by the Ministry of Natural Resources, they must be protected in planning documents and in day-to-day decisions on planning matters.

Wetlands Policy – *Questions and Answers*

35. How may I find out more about the Wetlands Policy Statement?

More information, particularly on local situations, may be obtained from local district offices of the Ministry of Natural Resources or Offices of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Also, detailed guidelines on implementing the policy will be available from these offices in the fall of 1992.

REMARQUE : Version française disponible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

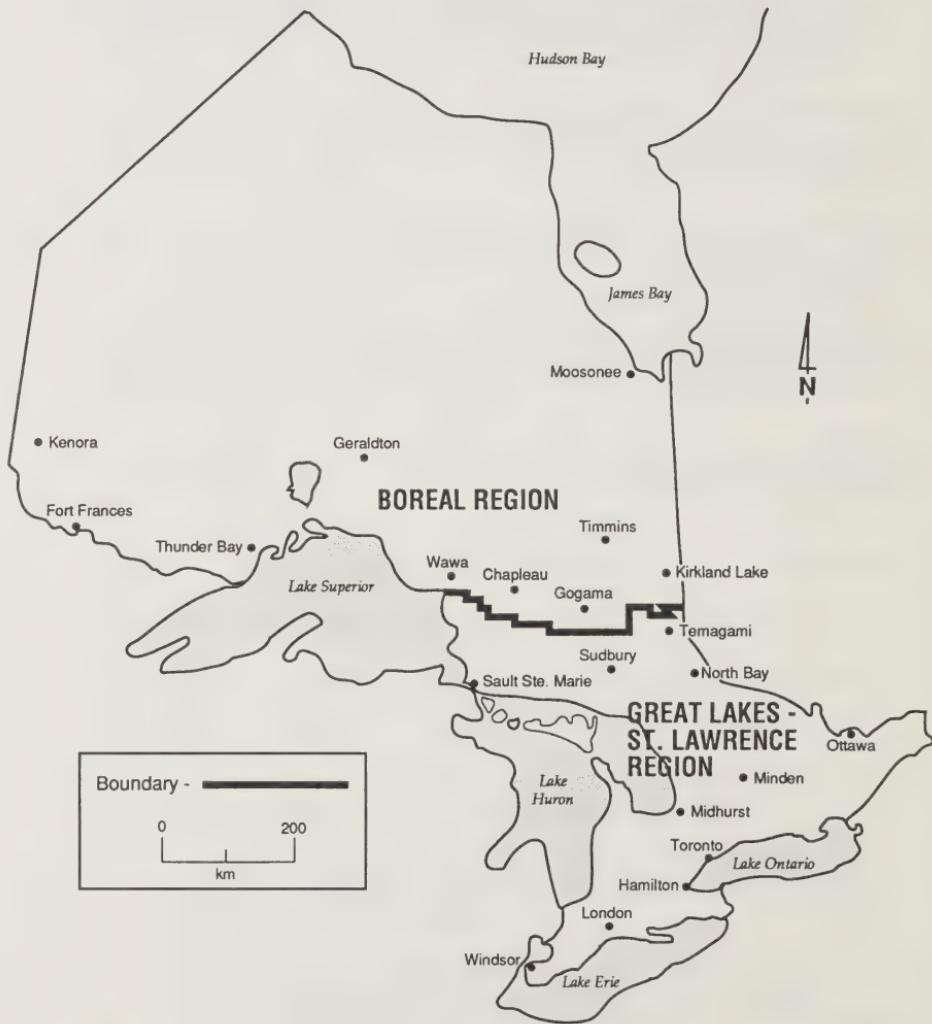
Doug Hagan
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TORONTO (416) 314-1051

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TORONTO (416) 314-1943

Curt Halen
Ministry of Municipal Affairs Land use Policy Section
TORONTO (416) 585-6230

24 June 1992

BOUNDARY BETWEEN KEY WETLAND REGIONS OF ONTARIO





Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des Richesses naturelles

**NOTES FOR REMARKS BY
BUD WILDMAN
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ANNOUNCING THE ONTARIO-WINDIGO-SHIBOGAMA
PLANNING AGREEMENT
SIOUX LOOKOUT, ONTARIO
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1992
9:00 A.M.**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

I am pleased to announce today that the Ontario government will sign an important planning agreement with the Windigo and Shibogama councils and four First Nations in northwestern Ontario.

I'm joined this morning by members of the Shibogama First Nations Council and the Windigo Tribal Council.

From the Shibogama First Nations Council:

- **Chief Simon Winnepetonga** of Wunnumin Lake
- **Chief James Mamakwa** of Kingfisher Lake, and
- **Eno Anderson**, Executive Director.

And from the Windigo Tribal Council:

- **Chief Albert Wesley** of Cat Lake
- **Chief Caleb Sakchekapo** of Weagamow Lake, and
- **Frank McKay**, Executive Director.

In a few moments we will formally sign the Ontario-Windigo-Shibogama Planning Agreement.

I'm making this announcement on behalf of Northern Development and Mines Minister Shelley Martel, and Environment Minister Ruth Grier, who could not be with us today.

The agreement provides for the creation of two interim planning boards, known as the Windigo Planning Board and the Shibogama Planning Board. The planning boards will consider a number of principles in their work, including the integration of resource uses, and the utilization of species and resources on a sustainable development basis.

The boards will advise the government on land use and resource development in the areas covered by the agreement, which include about 27,000 square kilometres south of Big Trout Lake and north of Pickle Lake in northwestern Ontario.

The boards will also identify potential opportunities for resource-based economic development and the practice of traditional economic activities.

The government of Ontario is committed to aboriginal involvement in resource management. The agreement is consistent with the province's commitment to the inherent right to self-government by First Nations, including access to lands and resources. The province is discussing with First Nations how to implement self-government.

These planning boards are the first established in the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation treaty area. This agreement is a significant step forward in the involvement of Ontario First Nations in planning and management of lands they have traditionally inhabited. We hope it will become a model for future development.

The boards will consist of an equal number of representatives from each of the councils and the province, with a neutral chair. Ontario has committed \$400,000 per year to fund the operating costs of the boards -- \$200,000 to each planning board for each year of operation.

The boards will remain in place for up to five years, and their effectiveness will be evaluated after three years, with a view to establishing more permanent arrangements.

As part of their mandate, the planning boards will develop community participation models suitable for use in remote Northern Ontario. They will ensure that an effective and meaningful public participation process is implemented, involving the widest possible public consultation.

I am delighted that the two councils, and the four First Nations, have agreed to participate with Ontario in planning for the future of northwestern Ontario.



NOTES FOR REMARKS BY
BUD WILDMAN
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AT THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF
THE ROUGE RIVER VALLEY PARK
METRO TORONTO ZOO
SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1993
10:00 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

I am here today with my colleague Elmer Buchanan, the Minister of Agriculture and Food, to announce the province's decision to protect parkland and prime agricultural land in the Scarborough/Markham/ Pickering area.

I will talk about the park, while Mr. Buchanan will discuss the agricultural lands adjacent to it.

As you know, the Rouge area has been the subject of studies, discussions and proposals for several years. I am pleased to say that the discussions have been productive, and have resulted in a plan which will lead to the creation of North America's largest urban park.

The province plans to create an 11,400-acre park in the Rouge Valley area. This park will protect the ecological integrity of the valley systems of the Rouge River and its key tributaries. We will create green corridors in an area stretching from Lake Ontario in the south to the Oak Ridges Moraine in the north.

The Rouge River Valley is a unique green space that lies within the borders of the largest metropolitan area in the province. Only a public-transit ride from downtown Toronto, we can find a startling variety of natural landscapes, where 18 sites that have been designated as environmentally, naturally or scientifically significant by provincial and municipal agencies, and rare flora and fauna, can be found.

The Rouge Valley offers us a rare opportunity to protect a substantial piece of our natural heritage in an urban setting. And at more than 11,000 acres it will be, as I said, the largest urban park in North America -- about seven times the size of New York's Central Park, and about 28 times the size of Toronto's High Park.

The Rouge also offers an opportunity for the federal government to match Ontario's contribution to this park. The federal government owns land in the river valleys stretching up to the Oak Ridges Moraine which could form a vital link in the creation of green corridors to the lake.

In addition, the decision to create the park, and to set aside adjoining agricultural land -- which Mr. Buchanan will talk about in a moment -- has been made within the wider context of managing urban growth in a way that will ensure environmental protection and enhancement, while addressing the need for economic vitality.

The government's Draft Rouge Park Management Plan will be available for public review and comment for the next two months. During that time, the province will discuss the issues of park management and funding with the federal government, municipalities, aboriginal groups, other public agencies, and other interested parties.

We will use the comments we receive to finalize the park management plan, and we're aiming to do that by the middle of this year. We will then move forward to establish a park-management agency.

The government will also provide protection for natural and cultural heritage areas in other watersheds on provincially owned lands in the Pickering area, and we are actively pursuing how this can best be accomplished. I am referring here, for example, to areas such as the Rouge/Duffin corridor.

The Draft Rouge Park Management Plan is a key part of the Ontario government's comprehensive planning approach for this area. The plan was written in response to the report submitted to me in August 1992 by the Rouge Valley Advisory Committee, a broadly-based group representing many government agencies and the public.

On behalf of the Ontario government, I want to publicly thank the members of the Advisory Committee for their dedication and commitment, and for their comprehensive recommendations.

Now that we have announced the draft park plan, we are well on our way to making the Rouge River Valley Park a reality. It promises to be a place that the citizens of Metropolitan Toronto, York and Durham regions -- indeed, all Ontarians -- will find a source of pride and pleasure for many years to come.

REMARKS BY

ELMER BUCHANAN
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

ROUGE VALLEY LAND ANNOUNCEMENT

METRO ZOO
TORONTO, ONTARIO

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1993
10 A.M.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

I TAKE PRIDE IN ANNOUNCING, ALONG WITH MY COLLEAGUE BUD WILDMAN, THIS COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO LAND USE IN THE ROUGE RIVER VALLEY AND GREATER TORONTO AREA.

THIS APPROACH IS INTEGRATED AND LONG-TERM -- IT BALANCES MANY NEEDS AND INTERESTS, IN TERMS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE.

MY COLLEAGUE HAS ALREADY COMMENTED ON THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE ROUGE PARK -- HAVING THE LARGEST URBAN PARK IN NORTH AMERICA IS DEFINITELY SOMETHING WE CAN BE PROUD OF.

I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THE STRATEGY FROM AN AGRICULTURAL POINT OF VIEW.

TIME AND AGAIN I'VE HEARD -- IN MY OWN TRAVELS ACROSS THE PROVINCE AND VIA CONSULTATIONS WE'VE UNDERTAKEN -- THAT THE PUBLIC WANTS OUR PRIME FARMLAND PROTECTED FOR THE LONG-TERM. PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING OUR BEST FOOD-PRODUCING LAND NOW, BEFORE IT IS DEVELOPED FOR OTHER USES. THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT SHARES THIS VIEW.

THAT'S WHY TODAY, WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A PIECE OF LAND MORE THAN 11 TIMES THE SIZE OF THE METRO ZOO, LOCATED ADJACENT TO OUR LARGEST URBAN CENTRE, AND MAKE SURE THAT IT REMAINS IN AGRICULTURAL USE -- FOR NOW, AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

THE 8,000 ACRES OF LAND, WHICH IS BETWEEN THE ROUGE PARK AND THE WEST DUFFIN CREEK NORTH OF STEELES, IS PRIMARILY CLASS 1 AND 2 AGRICULTURAL LAND. THIS MEANS IT IS HIGH-QUALITY LAND THAT LENDS ITSELF WELL TO THE PRODUCTION OF A WIDE RANGE OF CROPS.

WE'RE PROCEEDING IN TWO STEPS. THE FIRST STEP IS THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO RETAINING THIS LAND IN LONG-TERM AGRICULTURAL USE WITH LONGER LEASES. FARMERS ON THE LANDS CURRENTLY SIGN FIVE-YEAR LEASES WITH A ONE-YEAR CANCELLATION CLAUSE.

THE SECOND STEP IS THAT MY MINISTRY AND THE MINISTRY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES WILL CONSULT WITH LOCAL LANDOWNERS AND TENANTS, FARMERS, MUNICIPALITIES AND COMMUNITY GROUPS TO DEVELOP AN AGRICULTURAL STRATEGY EMPHASIZING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.

THE CONSULTATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. THEY WILL INCLUDE PUBLIC WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS, WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS AND QUESTIONNAIRES.

DURING THE CONSULTATIONS, WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE METHODS FOR PROTECTING THE AREA'S AGRICULTURAL ASSETS.

THIS NEW APPROACH WILL PROVIDE THE LONG-TERM SECURITY THAT FARMERS NEED TO MAKE ENVIRONMENTALLY AND FINANCIALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT DECISIONS. IT WILL ALSO ALLOW FARMERS TO MAKE A COMMITMENT TO LONG-TERM AGRICULTURAL USE AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES.

WE WILL ALSO BE ASKING ABOUT THE VARIOUS TYPES OF USES WHICH MAY BE PERMITTED THAT ARE COMPATIBLE WITH AGRICULTURE, BUT PROVIDE RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES. EXAMPLES OF THIS INCLUDE FARM VACATION OPERATIONS, COTTAGE INDUSTRIES, AND THE LIKE.

BASED ON THE CONSULTATIONS AND PROVINCIAL LAND USE POLICIES, WE EXPECT A FINAL DECISION ON A STRATEGY WILL BE DEVELOPED LATER IN THE YEAR.

PROVINCIAL-OWNED LAND MUST BE PROTECTED AND MANAGED IN THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC, AND ESPECIALLY OF LOCAL RESIDENTS. TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING DECISIONS THAT WILL AFFECT NOT ONLY OURSELVES, BUT GENERATIONS TO COME.

I WOULD ENCOURAGE INTERESTED PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED IN CONSULTATIONS -- TO HAVE A SAY IN THE FUTURE OF YOUR COMMUNITY.

WITH THIS AGRICULTURAL STRATEGY, WE HOPE AND TRUST THAT THIS ARE WILL BE ABLE TO THRIVE -- ECONOMICALLY, ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY.

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